

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OF MERRIMAC,
FOR THE
Year Ending January 31,
1896.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Selectmen, Town Officers and
School Committee
OF
The Town of Merrimac,
FOR THE
Year Ending January 31,
1896.

MERRIMAC, MASS.,
F. G. HOLBROOK, THE BUDGET PRESS.
1896.

APPROPRIATIONS

For the Year ending January 31, 1896.

Schools,	\$8,300
Highways,	1,600
Sidewalks,	200
Poor,	1,800
Street Lights,	600
Miscellaneous,	600
Fire Department,	1,500
Town Officers,	1,450
Debt,	1,500
Interest on Town Debt,	600
Discount on Taxes,	900
Public Library,	500
Memorial Day,	75
Superintendent of Schools,	350
Police Station,	75
Insurance Fire Department,	100
	\$20,150

TOWN OFFICERS.

SELECTMEN.

J. T. LOCKE, R. S. BAILEY,
J. C. LIBBY.

CLERK.

BAILEY SARGENT.

TREASURER.

D. J. POORE.

COLLECTOR.

W. C. RUSSELL.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

B. B. WOOD.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

ARTHUR W. CHASE, F. F. PHILBRICK,
BAILEY SARGENT, JOHN S. CLEMENT.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

BION GREEN,	Term expires March 1896.
FRANK E. PEASE,	“ “ “ 1897.
T. H. HOYT,	“ “ “ 1898.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

D. J. POORE,	Term expires March 1896.
JAMES F. PEASE,	“ “ “ 1896.
J. A. LANCASTER,	“ “ “ 1897.
F. O. DAVIS,	“ “ “ 1897.
S. A. McCONNELL,	“ “ “ 1898.
ARTHUR W. CHASE,	“ “ “ 1898.

TOWN OFFICERS.

ENGINEERS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

ALBERT PARKER, FRANK E. WALKER,
L. J. O'CONNOR.

COMMISSIONERS OF SINKING FUND.

I. B. LITTLE,	Term expires March 1896.
G. A. TITCOMB,	“ “ “ 1897.
GEORGE W. DAVIS,	“ “ “ 1898.

TRUSTEES LOCUST GROVE CEMETERY.

I. B. LITTLE,	Term expires March 1896.
C. E. ROWELL,	“ “ “ 1897.
J. A. LANCASTER,	“ “ “ 1898.

FOREST FIRE WARDS.

WILLARD B. KELLY, WALTER H. SARGENT.

POLICE.

J. FRED IVES, CHIEF,	THOMAS PARKIN,
ALEX. HANNA,	JOHN W. HUGHES.

AUDITOR.

MILFORD EDWARDS.

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER AND MEASURERS OF BARK
AND WOOD.

JOHN E. CURRIER, L. B. BLAISDELL.

FENCE VIEWERS.

J. E. CURRIER,	CALVIN B. ROBINSON,
WALTER H. SARGENT.	

FIELD DRIVER.

DR. I. M. LUCE.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

MERRIMAC, MASS., February 4, 1896.

We herewith respectfully present to the Citizens of Merrimac the twentieth annual report.

J. T. LOCKE, } Selectmen
R. S. BAILEY, } of
J. C. LIBBY, } Merrimac.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

TEACHERS.

R. D. McKeen, superintendent,	\$ 300 00
D. G. Abbott, principal High school,	499 99
Chauncy C. Ferguson, “	550 00
L. Frances Tucker, assistant “	513 17
Alice E. Chase, Center First Grammar,	87 50
Jennie P. Clement, “ “	387 50
Jennie P. Clement, Center Second Grammar,	70 00
Lilla M. Phelps, “ “	310 00
Sadie I. Baird, Center Intermediate,	70 00
Emma Pearson, “	310 00
Etta H. Colby, Center Primary,	378 00
Carrie M. Evans, Middle Street Grammar,	427 50
Louise C. Brackett, Middle Street Primary,	380 00
Mary H. Head, Prospect Street Intermediate,	310 00
Emma Pearson, “ “ “	60 00
Bertha M. Boultenhouse, Prospect Street Primary,	375 00
Ida M. Blaisdell, Port Grammar,	427 50
Mary H. Head, Port Primary,	70 00
Hattie A. Baxter, “	310 00

Annie R. Hunter, Birch Meadow,	\$ 48 00	
Ethel J. Cleale, “	67 50	
Abbie L. Clement, “	112 50	
Lilla M. Phelps, Bear Hill,	70 00	
Annie R. Hunter, “	232 50	
Annie M. Gray, Highlands,	202 50	
Lizzie B. Smith, Music,	206 25	
M. Angeline Pearson, Drawing,	90 00	
		\$ 6,865 41

JANITORS.

Harry Carroll, Center building,	\$ 10 50	
William Churchill, “	7 88	
C. P. Baker, “	163 75	
Thomas Tewhill, Prospect Street building,	74 00	
Isaac Heald, Port building,	74 00	
Christopher Sargent, Bear Hill building,	38 00	
Annie R. Hunter, Birch Meadow building,	5 00	
E. J. Cleale, “ “ “	5 00	
A. L. Clement, “ “ “	7 50	
E. C. Sherman, Middle Street building,	150 00	
E. C. Sherman, extra work,	5 00	
Annie M. Gray, Highlands,	12 50	
Porter Waterhouse, Centre building,	18 38	
		\$ 571 51

BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co.,	\$ 4 41
Carl Schoenhof,	3 90
Silver, Burdett & Co.,	18 90
D. C. Heath & Co.,	30 42
Ginn & Co.,	209 56
Allyn & Bacon,	26 25
J. L. Hammett,	63 15
American Book Co.,	45 22
George S. Perry & Co.,	131 27
Leach, Shewell & Sanborn,	9 77
Ed. E. Babb & Co.,	51 60
H. W. Stone,	1 25
Arthur C. Boyden,	2 25

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

7

S. A. McConnell,	\$ 12 92	
George F. King & Merrill,	6 00	
Bertha Boultenhouse,	1 00	
J. H. Cleary,	4 93	
Preble Bros.,	7 38	
C. E. Rowell,	1 57	
F. G. Holbrook,	11 75	
T. H. Castor & Co.,	1 80	
Dodd, Mead & Co.,	57 00	
Franklin Educational Co.,	50 00	
D. Appleton & Co.,	56 00	
H. E. Holt,	18 47	
		\$ 826 77

FUEL.

Wood Bros., wood,	101 18	
Atkinson Coal Co., coal,	159 50	
George W. Hoyt, wood,	2 75	
		\$ 263 43

INCIDENTAL REPAIRS.

John E. Currier, stock,	\$ 44 55	
Wm. Jones, stock and labor,	35 10	
J. C. Libby, stock and labor,	13 72	
J. E. Muldoon, stock and labor,	48 33	
D. E. Wadleigh,	3 25	
E. C. Sherman, setting flag poles, etc.,	7 50	
Goodwin & Kendrick, supplies,	6 50	
H. G. Hudson, repairing clocks,	3 00	
M. S. Gibbs,	84	
W. B. Chapman, stock and labor,	18 85	
W. W. Lydston, supplies,	6 25	
Heath Bros., stock and labor,	20 16	
N. L. Howe, repairing furnace,	12 30	
		\$ 220 35

MISCELLANEOUS.

C. P. Baker, cleaning Centre school, etc.,	\$ 35 95
Charles H. Stevens, cleaning vaults,	8 25
Geo. W. Simmons & Co., flags,	20 13
Mrs. J. B. Pettigrew, cleaning Middle Street school,	6 60

Mrs. J. Patten, cleaning Port rooms,	\$ 10 00	
R. D. McKeen,	9 60	
I. H. Pendergast,	3 00	
Boston & Maine R. R., freight,	1 08	
American Express Co.,	2 15	
E. G. Morrill, splitting wood,	1 00	
D. W. Currier, cleaning vault,	1 00	
M. A. Pearson, traveling expenses,	12 61	
Oak Hall Clothing Co., flags,	20 25	
Little's Express,	15 35	
T. H. Hoyt, postage,	1 65	
L. S. Martin, cleaning Bear Hill school,	3 00	
T. Tewhill, cleaning Prospect Street school house,	14 00	
		\$ 165 62
Total,		\$ 8,913 09
Unexpended,		186 97
		\$ 9,100 06
General Appropriation,	\$ 8,300 00	
Dog Tax,	148 50	
School Fund,	269 20	
Tuition and supplies,	32 36	
Superintendent,	350 00	
		\$ 9,100 06

OVERSEERS' DEPARTMENT.

Support of Mrs. Allison and Daughter.

Mrs. Hattie A. Currier, board,	\$ 153 00	
C. A. Bridges, shoes,	6 25	
F. E. Sweetsir, medical attendance,	9 00	
Little & Co., supplies,	3 00	
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	2 45	
J. S. Evans, shoes,	7 40	
		\$ 181 10

Support of Alice R. Gray.

L. J. Lewis, board,	88 00	
		88 00

Support of L. O. Gray.

Calvin Sargent, board,	96 00	
		96 00

Support of L. S. Sargent.

Moses Bailey, board,	36 00	
C. A. Bridges, shoes,	4 10	
Warren Emerson,	6 00	
		46 10

Support of A. J. Heath.

Julia B. Heath, board,	156 00	
		156 00

Aid of M. Burke.

Atkinson Coal Co.,	10 50	
S. H. Connor, supplies,	3 50	
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	4 75	
J. H. Cleary, supplies,	79 50	
		98 25

Aid of Mrs. John Jenkins.

Little & Co., supplies,	4 00	
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	5 75	
		9 75

Aid of C. W. Miles.

Mary Perkins, nursing,	\$ 28 00	
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	61 25	
Atkinson Coal Co.,	3 38	
C. B. Hunkins,	14 00	
M. Traverse,	18 00	
J. B. Heath & Son.,	63 00	
		\$ 187 63

Aid of Mrs. G. W. Currier, (charged to Newburyport).

Supplies and medical attendance,	35 24	
		35 24

Aid of Daniel Currier.

Wood Bros., supplies,	2 50	
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	7 75	
J. H. Cleary, supplies,	4 33	
Atkinson Coal Co.,	1 50	
		16 08

Aid of Mrs. Clooney and Children.

J. S. Evans, supplies,	4 25	
Nichols & Morse, “	2 00	
C. A. Bridges, “	1 50	
A. H. Peirce, medical attendance,	5 00	
O. Warren, “	3 50	
		16 25

Aid of Lydia Goodwin.

Atkinson Coal Co.,	18 75	
		18 75

Aid of Ann Waning.

A. P. Chaples, board,	104 00	
		104 00

Aid of Horace Cooper.

Paul A. Merrill, supplies,	35 60	
City of Newburyport, supplies,	5 20	
		40 80

Paid Town of Amesbury.

2-5 of board of McCabe child, '94,	83 20	
Aid of E. Vallencourt,	2 00	
2-5 board of Mary L. Dupree, '93 to '95,	180 51	
2-5 board of Mary L. Dupree, '95 to '96,	17 08	
		282 79

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

11

Paid City of Newburyport.		
Support of Mrs. Bellel,	\$ 59 25	
Support of Mrs. Bellel,	34 07	
		\$ 93 32
Paid City of Newton.		
Aid of Mrs. W. O. Haddock,	37 00	
		37 00
Paid City of Boston, (Hospital).		
Board and medical aid to A. H. Stetson,	24 00	
		24 00
Aid of Mrs. Chas. Carter and Son.		
H. J. Cushing, medical attendance,	21 50	
		21 50
Support of Patients, Danvers Insane Asylum.		
Adeline R. Lawson,	126 75	
Michael Riley,	126 75	
Homer Labrie,	126 75	
Calista A. Swett,	42 71	
Mary E. O'Callahan,	65 00	
		487 96
Aid of Henry Clay, (charged to Haverhill).		
Preble Bros., supplies,	25 54	
		25 54
Total,		\$ 2,066 06
Appropriation,		
	\$ 1,800 00	
Received from Haverhill,		
	25 54	
" C. W. Miles,	6 89	
" Moses E. Swett,	42 71	
Due from Newburyport,	35 24	
Due from State, B. Behill,	115 60	
" M. Jubert,	6 62	
Overdrawn,	33 46	
		\$ 2,066 06

TOWN OFFICERS.

J. T. Locke, chairman selectmen,	\$ 215 00	
R. S. Bailey, selectman,	125 00	
J. C. Libby, selectman,	125 00	
J. Fred Ives, police officer, chief,	101 20	
Alex. Hanna, police officer,	30 00	
Bailey Sargent, clerk and registrar of voters,	80 00	
D. J. Poore, treasurer, treasurer of sinking fund,	80 00	
W. C. Russell, collector of taxes,	300 00	
J. S. Clement, registrar of voters,	20 00	
F. F. Philbrick, “	20 00	
Bion Green, school committee,	55 00	
F. E. Pease, “	50 00	
T. H. Hoyt, “	50 00	
M. Edwards, auditor,	20 00	
H. J. Cushing, Inspector of cattle and provisions	55 00	
R. J. Eaton, teller, March and November,	6 00	
A. Wesley Colby, “	6 00	
Edward P. Sargent, “	6 00	
Albert Parker, ballot clerk, March,	3 00	
H. W. Haskell, ballot clerk, March and November	6 00	
J. J. Woodman, moderator,	5 00	
J. W. Hughes, fish warden,	1 00	
G. B. Patten, teller, March and November,	6 00	
E. S. Ricker, teller, November,	3 00	
F. E. Pease, teller, November,	3 00	
Thomas Parkin, special police,	21 25	
N. L. Howe, teller, March, 1895,	3 00	
A. G. Wells, teller, November,	3 00	
Clifton B. Heath, teller, November,	3 00	
C. I. Churchill, “	3 00	
Thomas Parkin, janitor Sargent hall,	90 35	
		\$ 1,494 80
Appropriation,	\$ 1,450 00	
Overdrawn,	44 80	
		\$ 1,494 80

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

BILL OF APRIL 30, 1895.

B. B. Wood, 146 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 32 85	
Wood Bros.' team, 120 hours at .40 per hour,	48 00	
W. H. Blodgett, team 20 hours at .40 per hour,	8 00	
W. H. Blodgett, 2 horses, 2 hours at .10 per hour	40	
Martin Greeley, 24 hours at .15 per hour,	3 60	
Ed. Morse, 2 1-2 hours at .15	37	
Ed. Morse, 16 loads of gravel at .03 per load,	48	
L. Goddard, team 40 hours at .40 per hour,	16 00	
T. Grant, 120 hours at .20 per hour,	24 00	
T. Collins, 54 hours at .20 per hour,	10 80	
W. H. Goldsmith, 55 hours at .15 per hour,	8 25	
R. Evans, 47 1-2 hours at .15 per hour,	7 12	
R. H. Sargent, team 52 1-2 hours at .40 per hour,	21 00	
J. H. Hartt, team 45 hours at .40 per hour.	18 00	
M. W. Sargent, 47 1-2 hours at .15 per hour,	7 13	
L. Crofut, 45 hours at .20 per hour,	9 00	
G. Ordway, 10 hours at .20 per hour,	2 00	
R. Sargent, 20 hours at .15 per hour,	3 00	
		\$ 220 00

BILL OF MAY 31, 1895.

B. B. Wood, 185 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 41 62
L. Goddard, team 107 hours at .40 per hour,	42 80
T. Collins, 56 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	11 30
T. Grant, 70 hours at .20 per hour,	14 00
G. Ordway, 57 hours at .20 per hour,	11 40
R. H. Sargent, team 9 hours at .40 per hour,	3 60
Wood Bros.. team 155 hours at .40 per hour,	62 00
J. Sheridan, 125 hours at .20 per hour,	25 00
L. Crofut, 62 hours at .20 per hour,	12 40
J. Scanlan, 25 hours at .15 per hour,	3 75
M. Greeley, 10 hours at .15 per hour,	1 50

Otis Currier, 85 hours at .15 per hour,	\$ 12 75	
Wm. Emerson, team 10 hours at .40 per hour,	4 00	
		\$ 246 12

BILL OF JUNE 30, 1895.

B. B. Wood, 150 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 33 75	
Wood Bros., team 165 hours at .40 per hour,	66 00	
W. H. Blodgett, horse 10 hours at .30 per hour,	3 00	
T. Collins, 72 hours at .20 per hour,	14 40	
R. Evans, 20 hours at .15 per hour,	3 00	
G. Ordway, 68 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	13 70	
J. Sheridan, 125 hours at .20 per hour,	25 00	
Otis Currier, 145 hours at .15 per hour,	21 75	
W. Kelley, team 15 hours at .40 per hour,	6 00	
		\$ 186 60

BILL OF JULY 31, 1895.

B. B. Wood, 88 1-2 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 19 92	
Wood Bros., team 85 hours at .40 per hour,	34 00	
T. Collins, 112 hours at .20 per hour,	22 40	
A. Callum, 74 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	14 90	
G. Ordway, 94 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	19 90	
Otis Currier, 76 1-2 hours at .15 per hour,	11 47	
J. Currier, 79 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	15 90	
I. Pendergast, team 5 hours at .40 per hour,	2 00	
		\$ 140 49

BILL OF AUGUST 31, 1895.

B. B. Woods, 165 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 37 12	
Wood Bros., team 175 hours, at .40 per hour,	70 00	
A. Callum, 110 hours at .20 per hour,	22 00	
J. Currier, 120 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	24 10	
Otis Currier, 135 hours at .15 per hour,	20 25	
T. Collins, 30 hours at .20 per hour,	6 00	
C. Stevens, 63 hours at .20 per hour,	12 60	
C. Stevens, horse 58 hours at .10 per hour,	5 80	
J. Doherty, 25 hours at .20 per hour,	5 00	
J. Doyle, 57 hours at .20 per hour,	11 40	
L. Goddard, team 10 hours at .40 per hour,	4 00	
Wm. Thompson, 120 hours at .20 per hour,	24 00	

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

15

S. H. Connor, team 50 hours at .40 per hour,	\$ 20 00	
R. Berran, 60 hours at .20 per hour,	12 00	
P. Greeley, 40 hours at .20 per hour,	8 00	
J. Sheridan, 35 hours at .20 per hour,	7 00	
W. Emerson, team 10 hours at .40 per hour,	4 00	
W. H. Blodgett, team 20 hours at .40 per hour,	8 00	
O. Currier, Jr., 10 hours at .20 per hour,	2 00	
J. Cahill, 8 hours at .20 per hour,	1 60	
G. Ordway, 100 hours at .20 per hour,	20 00	
		\$ 324 87

BILL OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1895.

Wood Bros., team 95 hours at .40 per hour,	\$ 38 00	
B. B. Wood, 110 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	24 75	
J. Currier, 5 hours at .20 per hour,	1 00	
C. Stevens, 5 hours at .20 per hour,	1 00	
A. Callum, 18 hours at .20 per hour,	3 60	
S. H. Connor, team 10 hours at .40 per hour,	4 00	
Wm. Thompson, 5 hours at .20 per hour,	1 00	
G. Ordway, 30 hours at .20 per hour,	6 00	
L. Goddard, team 10 hours at .40 per hour,	4 00	
T. Grant, 18 hours at .20 per hour,	3 60	
Otis Currier, Jr., 5 hours at .15 per hour,	75	
Ed. Goodwin, 53 hours at .20 per hour,	10 60	
R. Berran, 20 hours at .20 per hour,	4 00	
		\$ 102 30

BILL OF OCTOBER 31, 1895.

B. B. Wood, 172 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 38 70	
G. Ordway, 142 hours at .20 per hour,	28 40	
W. H. Blodgett, team 60 hours at .40 per hour,	24 00	
J. Cooper, 100 hours at .20 per hour,	20 00	
Ed. Goodwin, 90 hours at .20 per hour,	18 00	
W. Eastman, 45 hours at .20 per hour,	9 00	
T. Collins, 59 hours at .20 per hour,	11 80	
Wood Bros., team 55 hours at .40 per hour,	22 00	
L. Goddard, team 31 hours at .40 per hour,	12 40	
D. Morrison, 41 hours at .20 per hour,	8 20	
J. Jones, 30 hours at .20 per hour,	6 00	
E. Tibbetts, 20 hours at .20 per hour,	4 00	

C. Bailey, 15 hours at .30 per hour,	\$ 4 50	
W. Merriil, 5 hours at .30 per hour,	1 50	
A. Hanna, iron,	75	
P. Welch, 30 hours at .20 per hour,	6 00	
W. Carpenter, 85 hours at .20 per hour,	17 00	
J. H. Hartt, team 40 hours at .40 per hour,	16 00	
Wm. Emerson, team 30 hours at .40 per hour,	12 00	
		\$ 260 25

BILL OF NOVEMBER 30, 1895.

B. B. Wood, 79 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 17 17	
E. Goodwin, 62 hours at .20 per hour,	12 40	
T. Goodwin, 40 hours at .20 per hour,	8 00	
Wood Bros., team, 22 hours at .40 per hour,	8 80	
P. Neal, paving,	2 00	
		\$ 48 97

BILL OF DECEMBER, 1895, AND JANUARY, 1896.

B. B. Wood, 95 hours at .22 1-2 per hour,	\$ 20 37	
Wood Bros., team 83 hours at .40 per hour,	33 20	
E. Goodwin, 22 hours at .20 per hour,	4 40	
L. Goddard, man 21 hours, team 16 hours,	10 60	
T. Goodwin, 13 hours at .20 per hour,	2 60	
J. Doonan, 18 hours at .20 per hour,	3 60	
J. Cooper, 23 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	4 70	
J. Cahill, 32 hours at .20 per hour,	6 40	
T. Collins, 59 hours at .20 per hour,	11 80	
J. Addison, 4 hours at .20 per hour,	80	
E. Tibbetts, 16 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	3 30	
H., M. & A. Electric road, 56 loads ashes at .25,	14 00	
Merrimac Wheel & Gear Co., 3 loads ashes at .15,	45	
Mrs. Hughes, 50 loads gravel at .10 per load,	5 00	
R. H. Sargent, 49 loads gravel at .08 per load,	3 92	
Mr. Merrill, 35 loads gravel at .10 per load,	3 50	
Merrimac Wheel & Gear Co., 43 loads gravel at .10,	4 30	
Mrs. G. Nichols, 40 loads gravel at .06 per load,	2 40	
C. Bailey, 4 loads sand at .06 per load,	24	
M. W. Sargent, raking rocks,	5 00	
E. C. Little, team,	6 80	
L. B. Blaisdell, breaking sidewalks,	2 80	

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

17

P. Brady, labor,	\$ 1 50	
B. B. Wood, labor,	2 00	
		\$ 153 68
		\$ 1,683 28
Snow bills,		364 40
		\$ 2,047 68
Miscellaneous,		520 04
		\$ 2,567 72
Repairs on Sidewalks, B. B. Wood,		123 62
Total for repairs on Highways,		\$ 2,444 10
Appropriation,	\$ 1,600 00	
Received for Street Wash,	5 20	
Overdrawn,	838 90	
		\$ 2,444 10

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS FOR HIGHWAYS.

J. E. Currier, supplies,	\$ 141 14	
Timothy Keville, labor,	14 00	
D. E. Wadleigh,	12 65	
J. C. Libby, labor and stock,	3 93	
Merrimac Wheel & Gear Co., repairing wheel,	3 00	
A. I. Pettingill, gravel,	7 20	
Town of Amesbury, cr Rocks bridge, '92, '93, '94,	321 12	
Charles Doonan, labor,	2 00	
T. L. Goodwin, gravel,	15 00	
		\$ 520 04

SNOW BILLS.

BILL OF R. H. SARGENT.

R. H. Sargent, 98 hours at .25 per hour,	\$ 24 50
R. H. Sargent, single team 10 1-2 days at \$1,	10 50
R. H. Sargent, double team, 41 hours at .40,	16 40
J. H. Hartt, double team 41 1-4 hours at .40,	16 50
J. E. Currier, double team 10 hours at .40,	4 00
W. H. Goldsmith, 48 hours at .20,	9 60
M. W. Sargent, 77 1-2 hours at .20,	15 50
T. Grant, 58 1-2 hours at .20,	11 70
L. B. Crofut, 47 hours at .20,	9 40
N. Crofut, 45 hours at .20,	9 00
J. J. Woodman, 46 hours at .20,	9 20
J. Addison, 22 hours at .20,	4 40
U. Trull, 9 hours at .20,	1 80
L. B. Blaisdell, 23 1-2 hours at .20,	4 70
H. O. Blaisdell, 32 1-2 hours at .20,	6 50
S. C. Blaisdell, 25 hours at .20,	5 00
D. Morrison, 55 hours at .20,	11 00
J. H. F. Chase, 16 hours at .20,	3 20
H. E. Evans, 35 hours at .20,	7 00
B. Webster, 16 hours at .20,	3 20
G. Ordway, 15 hours at .20,	3 00
E. Tibbetts, 22 1-2 hours at .20,	4 50
C. Tibbetts, 19 hours at .20,	3 80
J. O'Leary, 68 hours at .20,	13 60
M. O'Connor, 24 hours at .20,	4 80
T. E. Connor, 9 hours at .20,	1 80
L. E. Bancroft, double team, 5 hours at .40,	2 00
W. Cate, 50 hours at .20,	10 00
J. H. Foster, 25 hours at .20,	5 00
C. Miles, 48 hours at .20,	9 60
J. Jenkins, 3 hours at .20,	60
G. F. Kendrick, 7 1-2 hours at .20,	1 50
D. H. Willis, 3 1-2 hours at .20,	70

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

19

F. Thurlow, 19 hours at .20,	\$ 3 80
D. Rogers, 1 hour at .20,	20
L. B. Blaisdell, double team, 17 hours at .40,	6 80
M. Greely, 10 hours at .20,	2 00
J. Cahill, 24 hours at .20,	4 80
L. Goddard, 10 hours at .20,	2 00
L. Goddard, double team, 10 hours at .40,	4 00
C. B. Robinson, 12 hours at .20,	2 40
C. Wallace, 7 hours at .20,	1 40
W. H. Emerson, 23 hours at .20,	4 60
W. H. Emerson, team, 25 hours at .40,	10 00
E. Bartlett, 7 hours at .20,	1 40
I. M. Gould, 33 hours at .20,	6 60
I. M. Gould, team, 8 1-2 hours at .40,	3 40
Geo. W. Hoyt, 16 hours at .20,	3 20
Geo. W. Hoyt, team, 3 1-2 hours at .40,	1 40
P. Croning, 22 hours at .20,	4 40
C. Morrill, 13 1-2 hours at .20,	2 70
W. B. Kelley, 4 hours at .20,	80

MONTH OF MARCH.

R. H. Sargent, 60 hours at .25 per hour,	15 00
R. H. Sargent, team, 50 hours at .10,	5 00
J. O'Leary, 32 hours at .20,	6 40
J. Curley, 9 1-2 hours at .20,	1 90
T. Grant, 8 hours at .20,	1 60
L. Crofut, 4 hours at .20,	80
M. W. Sargent, 8 hours at .20,	1 60
T. E. Connor, 6 hours at .20,	1 20
T. E. Connor, horse, 6 hours at .10,	60
J. Connor, 6 hours at .20,	1 20
J. B. Heath, 7 hours at .20,	1 40
C. A. Bridges, care of crossing,	1 00
U. O. Brackett, " " "	2 00

\$ 349 60

BILL OF J. L. BLAISDELL.

J. L. Blaisdell, 10 hours at .20 per hour,	\$ 2 00
" 2 horses, 20 hours,	4 00
" cleaning off grates, etc., 12 hours,	2 40
" horse, 2 hours,	40

\$ 8 80

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

BILL OF L. J. WHITTIER.

L. J. Whittier, 13 1-2 hours at .20,	\$ 2 70	
	<u> </u>	\$ 2 70

BILL OF TRUE HOYT.

True Hoyt, 16 1-2 hours at .20 per hour,	\$ 3 30	
	<u> </u>	\$ 3 30

Total for removing snow,		<u>\$ 364 40</u>
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STREET LIGHTS.

E. S. McKay, care of lights,	\$ 355 80	
N. J. Spofford, "	4 50	
Peter Gray, supplies,	5 50	
John Muldoon, repairs,	3 80	
John H. Cleary, supplies,	224 10	
Preble Bros., supplies,	2 10	
	<u> </u>	\$ 595 80
Unexpended,		<u>4 20</u>
		\$ 600 00
Appropriation,		\$ 600 00

SIDEWALKS.

Andrew Wilson, concreting,	\$ 157 28	
B. B. Wood, repairs on sidewalks,	123 62	
		\$ 280 90
Appropriation,	\$ 200 00	
Received from G. B. Patten,	25 00	
" T. H. Patten,	12 50	
" Mrs. T. Bradley,	9 67	
" E. Snell Ricker,	8 34	
Overdrawn,	25 39	
		\$ 280 90

SINKING FUND.

Paid D. J. Poore, Treas.,	\$ 1,500 00	
" " "	11 17	
		\$ 1,511 17
Appropriation,	\$ 1,500 00	
Overdrawn,	11 17	
		\$ 1,511 17

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid D. J. Poore, Treasurer,	\$ 500 00
Appropriation,	\$ 500 00

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Albert Parker, chief engineer,	\$ 25 00
F. E. Walker, assistant engineer,	25 00
L. J. O'Connor, “	25 00
T. W. Keough, steward,	90 00
Steamer company,	187 17
Hook and Ladder company,	86 13
Niagara company,	99 95
J. A. Heath, engineer steamer,	50 00
J. A. Heath, care fire alarm,	50 00
N. F. Stevens, assistant engineer,	25 00
F. B. Clement, stoker,	25 00
General McClellan company,	350 00
J. W. Hughes, steward Gen. McClellan,	42 00
Wood Bros.,	99 75
L. Griffin, supplies for fire alarm,	67 29
A. W. Mitchell Manufacturing Co., badges,	3 75
C. A. Richardson, repairs on fire alarm,	17 00
Edward P. Sargent, repairs on hose,	1 00
Frank E. Davis, repairs on engine,	1 00
Manchester Locomotive Works,	16 70
Geo. A. Parker, labor,	10 50
Warren Emerson,	13 50
D. W. Gould, supplies,	5 99
D. E. Wadleigh, “	4 51
J. E. Currier, “	5 22
Boston Woven Hose and Rubber Co.,	5 40
C. E. Rowell, supplies,	13 16
J. C. Libby, stock and labor,	8 66
American Express Co.,	2 30
Hanscom Bros., keys and repairs,	3 00
Howe & French, supplies,	12 00
W. B. Henderson, disbanded H. & L. Co.,	3 33
F. G. Holbrook, printing,	3 10

I. H. Pendergast, hauling hose wagon,	\$ 5 00	
A. E. Ellis, disbanded Hook and Ladder Co.,	4 91	
F. W. Cate, " " "	5 41	
L. N. Rogers, " " "	4 08	
O. E. Emerson, " " "	5 41	
F. W. Powers, " " "	3 41	
C. N. Carter, " " "	3 33	
J. Donahue, setting glass,	1 23	
J. H. Cleary, supplies,	21 30	
W. W. Lydston, "	16 70	
Little's Express,	3 05	
Patrick Farrington, disbanded H. & L. Co.,	3 33	
Atkinson Coal Co.,	38 50	
J. Muldoon, repairs on Port engine house,	10 60	
J. H. Murphy,	1 00	
W. H. Rogers, disbanded H. & Co.,	4 16	
W. H. Scott, repairing ladder,	1 00	
	————	\$ 1,509 83
Appropriation,	\$ 1,500 00	
Overdrawn,	9 83	
	————	\$ 1,509 83

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

Bailey Sargent, insurance on Fire Department and Middle street school house,	\$ 131 25
Bailey Sargent, insurance on school houses at Bear Hill, Highlands, Birch Meadow, Merrimacport and Sar- gent Hall,	91 58
Mrs. E. W. Smart, postage,	9 98
F. G. Holbrook, printing town reports and town printing for the year,	113 00
Atkinson Coal Co., supplies for Sargent Hall and police station,	30 50
J. C. Libby, putting up booths and repairs,	5 20
J. E. Muldoon, repairs on furnace and stoves,	9 10
Bailey Sargent, repairs on safe,	3 00
Walter H. Sargent, at brush fires,	15 75
Thomas Groom & Co., record and assessors books,	7 50
J. E. Currier, stock for repairing Sargent Hall and police station,	13 72
T. Parkin, charcoal,	2 50
Mrs. L. F. Green, taking school census,	10 00
George Bros. & Story, stationery and telephone,	2 28
J. P. Titcomb, plans for State highway,	75 00
C. H. Merriam, damages,	50 00
A. W. Reddy, Jr., on account of Holbrook and Chase Bros.,	70 00
A. L. Thompson, pump at Port,	11 00
E. J. Doherty, damages,	10 00
W. C. Russell, copying valuation book,	15 00
H. M. Meek, Assessors' blanks and record book,	9 75
Martin Greeley, cleaning rooms in Sargent hall,	2 70
James Whittier, damages,	5 00
I. H. Pendergast, teams for police,	9 25

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

25

D. W. Currier, cleaning police station,	\$ 1 50	
S. H. Connor, Wood for police station,	2 00	
Greenough, Adams and Cushing, ink,	84	
W. B. Kelly, printing fire notices,	1 00	
W. B. Kelly, at brush fires,	6 25	
G. A. R., Post 114, Memorial appropriation,	75 00	
T. Parkin,	85	
H. J. Cushing, returning births,	3 75	
Priest, Page & Co,	22 40	
J. C. Libby, blankets for police station,	3 00	
Bailey Sargent, recording births, deaths and marriages,	30 80	
J. H. Cleary, supplies for police station and Sargent hall,	17 17	
Little's Express,	4 10	
Edward P. Sargent, repairing registrars box,	1 50	
Lucy B. Bailey, returning births,	50	
Bailey Sargent, insurance on Sargent hall,	60 94	
Bailey Sargent, postage,	2 24	
American Express Co.,	85	
J. B. Heath & Son, returning deaths, '95, '96,	7 75	
R. E. Farra, painting,	1 50	
J. Fred Ives, repairs on police station,	2 75	
C. W. Miles, labor on police station,	6 89	
F. E. Sweetsir, returning births,	9 50	
A. H. Peirce, returning births,	2 00	
C. H. Hughes, care of watering trough,	6 00	
T. H. Hoyt, attorney in Oakes' case,	13 00	
		\$ 987 14
Appropriation,	\$ 600 00	
Memorial day,	75 00	
Repairs on police station,	75 00	
Insurance,	100 00	
Overdrawn,	137 14	
		\$ 987 14

Locust Grove Cemetery.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES.

For the year ending March 1, 1896.

1895.	DR.		
Feb. 12.	To balance on hand as per report,	\$ 59 21	
	Deposit in savings bank,	500 00	
	Interest in " "	35 90	
	Cash from sale of lots,	50 00	
		<u> </u>	\$ 645 11

1895.	CR.		
May 14.	By cash paid S. Conner,	\$ 10 50	
Sept. 26.	T. Troughton,	58 20	
1896.			
Feb. 8.	Deposit in Savings Bank,	\$ 535 90	
8.	Deposit in National Bank,	40 51	
		<u> </u>	\$ 645 11

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. LANCASTER, } Trustees.
C. E. ROWELL, }

Merrimac, Feb. 8, 1896.

STATISTICS FROM VALUATION BOOK.

	1894.	1895.
Valuation of Real Estate,	\$987,262 00	\$ 979,505 00
“ Personal Property,	254,272 85	301,610 00
“ Resident Bank Stock	69,790 00	70,490 00
“ Non-Resident Bank Stock,	72,210 00	69,510 00
Number of persons assessed on property.	602	601
“ “ for poll tax only,	401	392
“ of Polls,	649	728
“ acres of land	4,936.5	4,958
“ dwelling houses,	598	526
“ horses,	257	250
“ cows,	239	267
“ sheep,	5	4
“ swine,	63	68
“ neat cattle other than cows,	49	7
“ and value of fowls assessed,		905
Total tax assessed,	\$24,099 85	\$ 23,925 46
Rate of taxation per \$1,000.	17 50	16 60
County tax,	1,511 45	1,270 12
State tax,	1,320 00	810 00

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.

Sargent Hall,	\$ 20,000 00
School Houses,	24,000 00
Public Library,	2,700 00
Fire Apparatus,	11,300 00
Cemeteries,	2,800 00
Town Landing,	300 00
Gravel Pit,	25 00
Town Pound,	50 00
Town Standards,	150 00
Law Reports,	360 00
Street Lights,	275 00
Road Machine,	175 00
	————— \$ 62,135 00

State and Military Aid.

STATE AID.

For twelve months ending February 1, 1896.

George F. Bailey,	\$36 00	
John Doherty,	36 00	
Margaret Handley,	48 00	
Mary A. Hughes,	48 00	
John Jenkins,	60 00	
Rebecca Kennett,	48 00	
Stephen D. Kennett,	48 00	
Lydia A. Kennett,	48 00	
Wm. F. Martins,	60 00	
Adeline Noyes,	24 00	
Ellen Roe,	36 00	
Bryant Shays,	48 00	
Pluma A. Shays,	36 00	
Mary Whalen,	48 00	
Bridget Murphy,	9 00	
		\$ 633 00

MILITARY AID.

For twelve months ending February 1, 1896.

Daniel W. Currier,	\$144 00	
Lyman S. Sargent,	144 00	
		\$ 288 00

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF SINKING FUND.

DR.

Amount on hand March 1, 1895,	\$ 12,188 57
Accrued interest,	392 76
Premiums on sale of Bonds,	207 50
Received from Town Treasurer,	1,500 00
“ “ “ “	11 17
	<u> </u> \$ 14,300 00

CR.

Paid Town Treasurer,	
To retire note of June 9, 1885,	\$ 6,300 00
“ “ Dec. 26, 1885,	8,000 00
	<u> </u> \$ 14,300 00

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. POORE, Treasurer.

Approved,

GEO. W. DAVIS, }
GEO. A. TITCOMB, } Sinking Fund Commissioners.

Merrimac, February 10, 1896.

Police Report.

MERRIMAC, MASS., February 1, 1896.

Arrests by Police for year ending February 1, 1896,	19
Drunkenness,	5
Disturbance of peace,	1
Assault,	2
Breaking and entering,	2
Stubborn child,	1
Malicious mischief,	2
Cruelty to animals,	2
Violation Town By-Laws,	1
Violation liquor law,	1
Insane person,	1
For out-of-town officer,	1
Number lodgers,	274

J. F. IVES, Chief of Police.

Sargent Hall.

MERRIMAC, MASS., January 15, 1896.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen :

Gentlemen—The report of Sargent Hall is as follows :
From January 15, 1895, to January 15, 1896, Sargent Hall
has been opened 31 times.

Received for rent of hall,	\$ 145 00
Paid Town Treasurer,	145 00

THOMAS PARKIN, Janitor,

Jury List.

Prepared by the Selectmen to be acted upon at the
Annual Meeting, March 2, 1896.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	OCCUPATION.
Frank E. Bartlett,	Bear Hill st.,	Farmer.
Charles A. Bridges,	Prospect st.,	Shoe Dealer.
John L. Blaisdell,	Merrimac st.,	Stone Mason.
Joseph W. Colby,	Church st.,	Farmer.
William M. Chase,	Merrimac st.,	Carriage Blacksmith.
Alvah M. Colby,	Prospect st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
D. Warren Gould,	Main st.,	Harness Manuf'r.
Willard B. Kelly,	Birch Meadow,	Farmer.
Heman W. Kelly,	Woodland st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
Joseph W. Nichols,	Forest st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
Joseph Oak,	Little's ct.,	Photographer.
Charles E. Nichols,	Main st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
Charles N. Sargent,	Merrimac st.,	Farmer.
Homer R. Sargent,	Bear Hill st.,	Farmer.
Ralph H. Sargent,	Main st.,	Farmer.
Charles W. Sawyer,	Locust st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
Austin W. Sawyer,	School st.,	Carriage Blacksmith.
Lorenzo Y. Stevens,	Merrimac st.,	
Thomas Stoyale,	School st.,	Carriage Trimmer.
Nathan Huntington,	Main st.,	Carriage Trimmer.
Lorenzo B. Blaisdell,	Merrimac st.,	Farmer.

NAME.	RESIDENCE.	OCCUPATION.
George A. Grant,	Merrimac st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
Gilbert G. Davis,	Locust st.,	Grocer.
Melvin S. Gibbs,	Locust st.,	Carpenter.
Fred H. G. Chase,	Merrimac st.,	Carpenter.
Richard S. Bailey,	Merrimac st.,	Carriage Trimmer.
Alfred G. Wells,	Church st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
E. Byron Sargent,	School st.,	Carriage Manuf'r.
George E. Ricker,	Main st.,	Carriage Trimmer.
Frank E. Hale,	Main st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
Walter S. Williams,	School st.,	Carriage Blacksmith.
George Brown,	Main st.,	Carriage Painter.
Frank C. Delano,	Lancaster ct.,	Clerk.
Andrew J. Fullington,	Nichols st.,	Carriage Trimmer.
Francis S. Heath,	Sawyer st.,	Carpenter.
George W. Hoyt,	Birch Meadow,	Farmer.
Charles E. Little,	Main st.,	Carriage Dealer.
Charles H. Hughes,	Merrimac st.,	Carriage Bodymaker.
George B. Patten,	Main st.,	Carriage Bow Manuf'r.

Town Clerk's Report.

BIRTHS.

Number of births returned,	48
Males,	26
Females,	22
Fathers, native born,	34
Mothers, “	37
Father and Mother both native born,	32
“ “ foreign “	6

MARRIAGES.

Number of marriages recorded,	15
First marriage of groom,	13
“ “ bride,	15
Second marriage of groom,	2
Grooms native born,	13
Brides “	12
Average age of groom,	28 years, 5 months.
“ “ bride,	22 years, 10 months.

DEATHS.

Number of deaths returned,		39
Males,		18
Females,		21
Average age,	53 years, 6 months, 25 days.	
Oldest person,	87 years, 8 months, 19 days.	
Under 5 years,		5
Males native born,		16
Females, “		17
Of native parentage,		25
foreign “		8
mixed “		6

DOGS.

Number of dogs licensed,		97
Males,	93 Females,	4

BAILEY SARGENT, Town Clerk.

NOTE AND INTEREST ACCOUNT.

Paid Merrimac Savings Bank,		
Note of Nov. 20, 1894, (balance)	\$1,000 00	
Paid State Treasurer,		
Note of June 9, 1885,	6,300 00	
Paid Merrimac Savings Bank,		
Note of March 26, 1895,	2,500 00	
Paid Provident Inst. for Savings, Amesbury,		
Note of May 1, 1895,	2,000 00	
Paid State Treasurer,		
Note of May 21, 1895,	3,000 00	
Paid E. H. Gay & Co., Boston,		
Note of June 24, 1895,	1,500 00	
Paid Sinking Fund Commission,		
Note of Nov. 12, 1895,	2,000 00	
Paid State Treasurer,		
Note of Dec. 26, 1885,	8,000 00	
Paid Merrimac Savings Bank,		
Note of Dec. 1895,	2,500 00	
		\$ 28,800 00

Interest paid,		
Note of Nov. 20, 1894,	\$ 30 55	
" June 9, 1885,	126 00	
" Dec. 26, 1885,	280 00	
" March 26, 1895,	46 94	
" May 1, 1895,	25 56	
" May 21, 1895,	31 56	
" June 24, 1895,	10 20	
" Nov. 12, 1895,	8 56	
		\$ 559 37

Collector's Account.

W. C. RUSSELL, Collector, in account with the Town of
Merrimac.

DR.

To Tax List and additions of 1895,	\$ 23,925 46	
Balance uncollected Feb. 12, 1895,	1,734 45	
	<u> </u>	\$25,659 91

CR.

By Cash paid Treasurer,	\$ 21,755 76	
Discounts,	815 92	
Abatements,	309 70	
Uncollected taxes, Feb. 15, 1896,	2,778 53	
	<u> </u>	\$25,659 91

TREASURER'S REPORT.

D. J. Poore, Treasurer, in account with the Town of
Merrimac,

1895.	DR.	
Mar. 4.	To balance,	\$ 549 64
8.	To G. W. Cate, court fees,	84
29.	“ Loan, Merrimac Savings Bank,	2,500 00
May 4.	“ Provident Institution for Savings,	2,000 00
“	“ City of Haverhill, acct. Clay,	25 54
24.	“ Loan, State Treasurer,	3,000 00
June 14.	“ Sinking Fund Commission,	6,300 00
“	“ G. W. Cate, court fees,	32 30
22.	“ G. B. Patten, sidewalk,	25 00
“	“ T. H. Patten, sidewalk,	12 50
27.	“ Loan, E. H. Gay & Co.,	1,500 00
29.	“ M. A. Bradley, sidewalk,	9 67
“	“ First National Bank, rent,	68 75
July 9.	“ G. W. Cate, court fees,	4 44
22.	“ E. S. Ricker, sidewalk,	8 34
Aug. 20.	“ State Paupers,	76 60
Nov. 6.	“ E. M. Swett,	42 71
“ 9.	“ First National Bank, rent,	137 50
15.	“ Sinking Fund Commissioners,	2,000 00
Dec. 27.	“ “ “ “	8,000 00
“	“ Loan, Merrimac Savings Bank,	4,500 00
1896.		
Jan. 7.	“ C. W. Miles,	6 89
25.	“ License,	1 00
28.	“ School Committee,	26 95
“	“ Massachusetts School Fund,	269 20

Jan. 31.	To County Treasurer, Dog Tax,	\$ 148 50	
Feb. 1.	“ School Committee,	5 41	
8.	“ City of Newburyport,	35 24	
14.	“ First National Bank, rent,	68 75	
	“ Thomas Parkin, acct. Sargent hall,	145 00	
	“ State Treasurer, Corporation Tax,	374 18	
	“ “ National Bank Tax,	288 75	
	“ “ State and Military Aid,	678 00	
	“ W. C. Russell, Taxes,	21,755 76	
			\$ 54,597 46

CR.

By paid County Tax,	\$ 1,270 12	
State Tax,	810 00	
National Bank Tax,	1,163 88	
State Aid,	633 00	
Military Aid,	288 00	
J. Fred Ives, Court expenses,	22 11	
Selectmen's Orders,	49,634 70	
Cash on hand,	775 65	
		\$ 54,597 46

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. POORE, Treasurer.

Merrimac, February 17, 1896.

Financial Statement.

ASSETS.

Due from State Aid,	1,050 00	
State, Cities and Towns, on account of poor,	156 62	
Heirs of William Rowell, sidewalk account,	36 43	
Uncollected taxes,	2,778 53	
Cash on hand,	775 65	
		\$ 4,797 23

LIABILITIES.

Balance of Note of Dec. 26, 1895,	\$ 2,000 00	
Accrued interest,	17 50	
Outstanding bills estimated,	400 00	
		\$ 2,417 50
Surplus,		\$ 2,379 73
Net debt March 1, 1895,		29 31
Gain of assets the past year,		\$ 2,350 42

RECAPITULATION.

Department.	Appropri'n.	Rec'd other Sources.	Expended.	Unexp'n'd.	Overd'n.
Schools, Supt. of Schools,	\$ 8,300 00 350 00	Dog tax, \$ 148 50 Tuition, Sup. 32 36 Mass. Sch. Fd., 269 20 Haverhill, 25 54 Newburyport, 35 24 M. E. Swett, 42 71 C. W. Miles, 6 89 State Paupers, 76 60	\$ 8,913 09 2,066 06	\$ 186 97	\$ 79 08
Poor,	1,800 00				
Town Officers, Highways, Sidewalks,	1,450 00 1,600 00 200 00	Street wash, 5 20 T. H. Patten, 12 50 G. B. Patten, 25 00 Mrs. Bradley, 9 67 E. S. Ricker, 8 34	1,494 80 2,444 10 280 90		44 80 838 90 25 39
Street Lights, Fire Department, Public Library, Sinking Fund, Police Station, Memorial Day, Fire Dept. Insur. Interest, Miscellaneous, Discount on Taxes,	600 00 1,500 00 500 00 1,500 00 75 00 75 00 100 00 600 00 600 00 900 00		595 80 1,509 83 500 00 1,511 17 75 00 91 25 559 37 687 14 815 92	4 20 75 00 8 75 40 63 84 08	9 83 11 17 87 14
Total,	\$ 20,150 00	\$ 697 75	\$ 21,544 43	\$ 399 63	\$ 1,096 31

Annual Report of the Board of Engineers

MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT.

To the Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Merrimac :

Another year has rolled around without any serious conflagrations occurring to disturb the business interest of our town. But three alarms have been sounded during the year, as follows : May 11, alarm rung in at 1.05 p. m. by request of Forest Fire Warden W. B. Kelly, for fire at J. E. Currier's saw mill on Red Oak hill. This proved to be a very hot fire located, as it was, in the midst of several hundred cords of cut cord wood and a large lot of timber logs ready for the mill, with a fierce wind blowing it into the standing timber. To this alarm the fireman attached to the central station promptly responded with such implements as were necessary for fighting this class of fires. It soon became evident to the Board that more help was needed and a second alarm was ordered, calling Company No. 3 from the Port. After a severe fight the fire was finally subdued. Mr. Currier estimated his loss rising \$500. No insurance.

Second alarm, September 22, box 31. Rung in at 8 o'clock Sunday evening for fire in stable and dwelling house on Merrimac street, owned by Mrs. D. M. Tukesbury, occupied by Chas. Coleman. Fire caused by upsetting lantern in the hay loft, containing about seven tons of hay. The barn

was practically gone before the alarm was given and the house adjoining it on fire at the rear. By the quick response and noble work of the department the house was saved, with damage only to the L and roof. Mr. Coleman's loss, \$300, no insurance. Mrs. Tukesbury's loss was fully covered by insurance, she receiving \$499.95. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the firemen for their good work at this fire.

Third alarm January 19, Box 12, at 12.40 a. m. Fire on Bear Hill road, house and barn connected, owned by True Hoyt, occupied by John W. Dodge. Fire caused by defective chimney, started in closet by side of chimney in chamber. This fire was first discovered about 11.30 p. m., but, as there was no water supply in the vicinity, the neighbors bent their energies towards saving what property they could in the house until warned by the large number of sparks being blown by a gale of wind endangering other buildings. They then sent in an alarm which was responded to by members of Hose 1, with Chemicals and the Hook and Ladder. Total loss on buildings \$650, insured. Mr. Dodge carried an insurance of \$2,000 on contents of house and barn, which would about cover his loss.

The Board would respectfully say that the same amount will be necessary to maintain the department in its present effective condition, as was appropriated last year, viz: \$1,500. They would further recommend that an appropriation be made to paint the Central Engine house and to make some necessary repairs. It is recognized economy not to neglect painting too long.

APPARATUS.

The apparatus consists of one Steam Fire Engine in first class condition, valued at \$3,000; one Hose Wagon, attached to the same, valued at \$500. These two pieces are manned by 18 men. One Hand Engine, first-class, valued at \$1,000;

Hose Reel attached to same, valued at \$200, all in perfect order, number of men, 35; Hook and Ladder, fully equipped with extension roof and standing ladders; Life Net, Life Line Gun and one pair of Babcock Fire Extinguishers, valued at \$1,050. Number of members, 12. One good Hose Jumper; 2,000 feet Rubber Lined Fabric Hose, (1,000 feet nearly new) 1,200 feet of Leather Hose, and 400 feet of Hose of questionable condition.

The electric alarm has been extended and now covers entire Plains district. New box, 15, located at J. E. Currier's residence, Church street. Box 27, located at residence of Alexander Oxley, corner Summer and Maple streets.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ALBERT PARKER, Chief,
F. E. WALKER, 1st Assistant,
L. J. O'CONNOR, 2nd Assistant.

REPORT OF THE
Trustees of the Public Library,
OF THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC.

To the Board of Selectmen of Merrimac ;

Gentlemen—Herewith the Trustees present the twentieth annual report of the Public Library, and in doing so are pleased to report much progress during the past year. Several innovations have been introduced which we believe already give evidence of the production of much benefit in our community through a new use of the contents of the Library.

First. Having secured the use of the small room adjacent to the Public Library room, we have caused it to be fitted and furnished as a reference room, the usefulness of which has been demonstrated by a constant increase of patronage.

Second. We have had the library renovated during the summer vacation, the books being thoroughly cleaned and repaired.

Third. Among the additions during the past few months we have purchased Johnson's Cyclopædia of eight volumes, a work of recent publication and of acknowledged high authority. We commend the use of this work in our reference department.

Fourth. We have established the new practice of allowing teachers in our schools daily access to the reference room, thereby broadening the scope of its usefulness.

Fifth. Through the co-operation of the Superintendent of Schools we have in trial a plan for the distribution of certain books among the scholars of higher grade, the books being selected by the superintendent and used during school hours only. The benefits derived from this experiment are already apparent, and its appreciation will be better understood by the following letter which attests the success of the plans adopted :

Bradford, Mass., Jan. 1896.

Mr. D. J. Poore, Secretary Board of Trustees of Merrimac Public Library ;

Dear Sir—At the hearing given me by your Board of Trustees last November, I attempted to lay before you some of the benefits that, in my mind, would be derived from bringing into closer relationship the two great forces that contribute so largely toward the education of the youth—the Public Library and the Public Schools. The action of the trustees in granting the privileges we asked, viz. to take a limited supply of books from the Public Library to the high and grammar schools, is not only evidence of their interest in the schools, but it is certainly proving to be of inestimable value to the children.

From what I learn from the teachers and through my own observation, I take pleasure in saying that this experiment is successful beyond my expectations. By this means, a large part of the reading is under guidance of the teachers and school officers, and the pupils now read as many books as they should read while attending school. In this way, there is not only laid a good foundation for the study of literature, but

a taste and love for good reading is created. This is a far-reaching plan to bring the library and the people into the closest relations.

If the success of the present plan continues, I hope the restrictions as to grades in the grammar school will be removed, so that younger pupils will have access to the books suited to their grades. Thus the library will be a sort of annex to the schools and its use, as it should be, a part of the education of every pupil.

I desire to acknowledge my obligations to your Board for the valuable service rendered in making the library such a profitable feature in our school work.

Yours Respectfully,

R. D. McKEEN,

Supt. of Schools.

The Library is in excellent condition, well cared for, and only one book unaccounted for. During the year the rooms have been opened 94 times and 8683 volumes delivered. The average daily delivery has been 92.3, while the largest delivery in one day was 205. The monthly delivery was as follows:

In February (1895), 932; March, 1288; April, 868; May, 645; June, 754; July, 416; September, 527; October, 650; November, 1084; December, 650; January (1896), 869.

There has been added to the Library during the past year 182 volumes, received from the following sources: Purchased by the Trustees, 131; presented by Mr. J. H. Cartland, 11; presented by Swedenborg Publishing Co., 23; presented by the Commonwealth, 17.

The average cost for the delivery of books and expense of running the Library has been three cents per volume.

The urgent need of the publication of a new catalogue at the present time presents itself but the lack of funds to meet the expense has prevented the publication the past year. The inconvenience in using the old catalogue and several bulletins can only be remedied by compiling the whole in a new catalogue. When considering the present demands and the extended usefulness of the Library, a larger appropriation appears to be a necessity.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. PEASE,
D. J. POORE,
J. A. LANCASTER,
F. O. DAVIS,
S. A. McCONNELL.

D. J. POORE, Secretary.

Merrimac, February 15, 1896.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

For the Year ending March 1, 1896.

D. J. POORE, Treasurer, in account with the Merrimac
Public Library.

DR.

To balance from previous year,	\$ 7 60	
Received from Catalogues,	1 65	
Cards,	65	
Fines,	17 89	
Int. on Goodwin Fund,	16 48	
Town appropriation,	500 00	
		\$ 544 27

CR.

By paid for Books and Magazines,	\$ 182 29	
Librarian,	200 00	
Printing,	19 95	
Binding Books,	28 94	
Express,	5 70	
Charcoal,	5 50	
Atkinson Coal Co.,	23 75	
N. L. Howe,	1 60	
W. W. Lydston,	3 25	
Preparing Reference room,	10 40	
Furnishing Reference room,	25 00	
Renovating Library,	16 20	
Sundry supplies,	20 66	
Cash on hand,	1 03	
		\$ 544 27

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. POORE, Treasurer.

Merrimac, February 15, 1896.

APPENDIX.

DELINQUENT TAX-PAYERS.

List of Taxes Remaining Unpaid Feb. 12, 1896.

W. C. RUSSELL, Collector.

1891.				Currier, Thos. A.	1 90
Gassett, Chas. W.	\$18 02			Peaslee, John S.	3 33
1892.				Kimball, Stephen T.	95
Battis, James W.	2 00			Bagley, Thos.	95
Battis, Geo. H.	2 00			Cooper, Geo. E.	95
Bagley, James W.	3 60			1894.	
Battis, Elmer E.	3 20			Avery, Alden A.	5 07
Currier, Wm. A.	2 40			Addison, Joseph	35 20
Parker, John E.	2 00			Bailey, James W.	2 00
Sargent, Geo. H.	2 00			Bancroft, Leman E.	35 78
Tenney, Jno. E.	5 20			Battis, Benj. H.	17 58
Kimball, Stephen T.	80			Battis, Geo. H.	2 00
Bagley, Thos.	80			Battis, Joseph W.	2 00
Connell, T. J.	3 40			Burns, Mich. H.	2 00
1893.				Barker, John E.	2 00
Bancroft, Leman E.	15 55			Brady, Patrick	2 00
Battis, Benj. H.	13 08			Brady, Mrs. Patrick	13 00
Battis, Geo. H.	2 00			Currier, Jane Heirs,	1 75
Berran, Roger	2 00			Currier, Jno. W.	2 00
Currier, Jane A. Heirs,	1 90			Currier, Wm. A.	2 44
Chase, Enoch H. Heirs,	11 40			Connell, T. J.	41 38
Connell, T. J.	45 70			Chaplin, Chas. L.	9 97
Chaplin, Chas. L.	10 55			Colby, Chas	2 00
Doyle, Mich. H.	1 00			Colby, Warren H.	2 00
Doyle, James	21 48			Crockett, Levi	2 00
Goodwin, F. W. P. Heirs	8 55			Currier, Oliver	2 00
Greeley, Peter	7 20			Davis, Ira C.	37 09
Gassett, Chas. W.	19 10			Davis, Wm. B.	2 00
Hagg, Anton	2 00			Doucet, F. A.	2 00
Jenkins, John	2 00			Doyle, James	19 95
Mooney, Robert	2 00			Doyle, Mich. H.	2 00
McHugh, Wm.	2 00			Doyle, James Jr.	2 00
Palmer, Moses G.	2 00			Doonan, Jno.	2 00
Pettigrew, F. O. Heirs	13 30			Dyer, Clarence	2 00
Ransom, Walter L.	2 00			Desantuls, Emery	2 00
Ruel, Lawrence	2 00			Day, Earnest C.	2 00
Richardson, Henry C.	2 00			Evans, Jno.	2 00
Sargent, Geo. H.	2 00			Farra, Robert	9 88
Stetson, H. A.	2 00			Frechett, Jno. B.	2 00
Scanlon, John N.	2 00			Foster, Thos. C.	2 00
				Goodwin, F. W. P. Heirs,	7 88

Gray, Herbert S.	2 00	Peaslee, John S.	3 07
Gassett, Chas. W.	17 75	Peaslee, Richard	14 88
Goodwin, Fred B.	2 00	Favor, Mrs. Nancy	7 88
Greeley, Peter	16 00	Day, Joseph Heirs	1 75
Hoyt, J. Heirs,	23 63	Kimball, Stephen T.	88
Hoyt, Gilman	2 00	Connor, John	5 69
Hoyt, J. B. Heirs,	7 00	Bagley, Thos.	88
Hagg, Anton	2 00	O'Neil, Jno.	2 63
Handley, J. E.	2 00	Nichols, Jno. A. Heirs	2 19
Jenkins, John	9 44	Sargent, O. Everett	22 00
Johnson, Caroline	2 63	Cooper, George	88
Lyons, Wm. M.	8 57	Noon, Mathew	2 63
Lea, Fred	2 00	Ford, Ella W.	5 25
Lyons, Wm. M.	2 00		
Murphy, James W.	2 00	1895.	
Morrill, E. B.	2 00	Abbott, Daniel G.	2 83
Meehan, Dennis	2 00	Addlington, Robert	2 00
McHugh, Wm.	2 00	Blodgett, Lucy M.	40 45
Nichols, H. II.	2 00	Bailey, Franklin P.	7 40
Nevins, J. P.	2 00	Bailey, Chas. S.	2 00
Noon, Mich. Heirs,	29 32	Brady, Patrick	2 00
Olson, Lewis	2 00	Brady, Mrs. Patrick	24 90
O'Leary, Jno.	2 00	Barlow, Maria	8 30
Parker, John C.	2 00	Barlow, Joseph	2 00
Paradis, Chas.	2 00	Bullard, A. C.	3 16
Pettigrew, F. O. Heirs,	12 25	Blotner, Moses	14 04
Powers, Fred W.	2 00	Battis, Wm.	2 00
Reiley, Michael	35 25	Battis, Benj. H.	15 69
Ransom, Walter L.	2 00	Battis, Geo. H.	2 00
Ruggles, Chas. D.	2 00	Bancroft, Leman E.	33 04
Richardson, Henry C.	2 00	Barry, Martin	2 00
Sargent, Geo. H.	2 00	Bunker, Daniel C.	24 41
Shays, Wm. E.	2 00	Burns, Michael P.	2 00
Sheridan, Thos. W.	2 00	Baker, Chas. P.	2 00
Sheridan, James	50	Betts, Frank W.	3 25
Scanlon, James F.	2 00	Blanch, Chas. D.	2 00
Scofield, Herman B.	2 00	Blackburn, J.	35 20
Stetson, H. A.	2 00	Bonner, Henry	2 00
Simmons, Chas. H.	2 44	Bishop, Edw.	2 00
Stoye, Thomas	22 13	Currier, John W.	2 00
Scanlon, John N.	2 00	Currier, Wm. A.	2 42
Sullivan, Patrick	2 00	Currier, Daniel W.	2 00
Scanlon, Wm. H.	2 00	Colby, Mrs. Barzillia	3 98
Thompson, Willard H.	2 00	Chase, Wesley	2 00
Traverse, John F.	2 00	Coombs, Wallace A.	17 77
Cherry, Jas. F.	10 50	Chase, Fred H. G.	2 00
Welch, Patrick H.	2 00	Connor, Samuel H.	18 60
Wallace, James L.	2 00	Connor, Katherine M.	83
Wilson, Mrs. C. E.	4 56	Connor, Timothy E.	17 45
Orpheon Club,	88	Connell, T. J.	3 25
Currier, Thos. A.	1 75	Connell, Mrs. T. J.	34 86

Chaplin, Chas. L.	9 89	Gilday, Gilman S. II.	2 00
Carter, Chas. N.	2 00	Greeley, Nellie	83
Curtis, Geo. A.	2 41	Howe, Nathaniel	21 09
Carlson, Fitz	2 00	Hoyt, J. Heirs	22 41
Carroll, Arthur C.	2 00	Hoyt, Gilman S.	2 00
Carr, Robert	16 94	Hoyt, Mrs. Carrie J.	14 11
Crouse, James C.	19 43	Hoyt, True	13 62
Currier, Otis S.	2 00	Heald, Isaac	2 00
Callum, A. J.	2 00	Handley, Geo. W.	2 00
Connell, John	2 00	Hart, John J.	2 00
Cauchon, Oliver	2 00	Hall, Walter F.	2 00
Clark, Wm.	2 00	Hudson, Geo. H.	2 00
Clark, Chas.	2 00	Harriman, Chas. F.	2 00
Crockett, Levi	2 00	Haskell, Henry	2 00
Campbell, Oscar	2 00	Jewett, L. W.	2 42
Currier, Thos. F.	2 00	Jenkins, John	8 64
Chase, Abram W.	16 11	Lovell, A. J.	2 00
Currier, Oliver	2 00	Loud, Otis S.	3 66
Davis, Ira C.	35 37	Lawson, Andrew D.	2 00
Davis, Wm. B.	2 00	Lewis, Albert	20 26
Davis, James A.	2 00	Lofqvist, Frank	2 00
Doucett, F. A.	2 00	Leeman, Jno.	2 00
Donahue, John E.	2 00	LaDuc, Octave	2 00
Doyle, James	18 60	Lea, Fred	2 00
Doonan, James	2 00	Morse, Mary Abbie	66 40
Desantuls, Emery	2 00	Morse, Edw. W.	70 06
Daley, Timothy F.	2 00	Murphy, Wm. A.	2 00
Elliott, Elmira and Laura	11 62	Murphy, Chas. B.	2 00
Elliott, Phineas Heirs	3 32	Merritt, Cyrus H.	2 00
Evans, John W.	2 00	Morrill, Elbridge G.	2 00
Emerson, Wm. H.	5 74	Miles, Chas. W.	4 66
Edmunds, John	2 00	Means, Daniel M.	41 01
Farrington, O. C. Heirs	29 30	Means, Philip C.	2 00
Flanders, Moses C.	2 00	Merriam, Chas. H.	16 94
Foster, John H.	17 77	Mooney, Robert	2 00
Foster, Thos. C.	2 00	Morrill, Chas. B.	2 83
Farra, Robert	9 06	McFarland, N. F.	2 00
Fitzgerald, John	2 00	Mahoney, Jeremiah	2 00
Frechett, Jno. B.	2 00	McHugh, Wm.	2 00
Foss, Leslie D.	14 28	McClellan, Wm.	2 00
Goodwin, Hayden T.	2 00	Nichols, H. H.	2 00
Goodwin, F. W. P. Heirs	7 47	Noon, Michael Heirs	27 81
Goodwin, Fred B.	2 00	Newton, F. Wayland	5 98
Gunnison, Geo. G.	24 41	Newton, Charles	2 00
Gould, Morrill I.	31 97	Ordway, Geo.	2 00
Gassett, Chas. W.	16 94	Oakes, Nelson T.	2 00
Greeley, Martin	2 00	Olson, Lewis	2 00
Greeley, Michael	31 90	O'Leary, Jno.	2 00
Gale, John W.	3 66	Patten, John	5 32
Goss, Jno. W.	2 41	Porter, Joseph W.	33 54
Gilpatrick, W.	2 00	Parker, Fred E.	2 00

Parker, John C.	2 00	Traverse, Jno.	2 00
Prescott, Geo. S.	63 42	Taylor, Benj. H.	4 08
Pettigrew, F. O. Heirs	11 62	Wallace, Chas. A.	31 22
Picard, Thurston	22 09	Williams, Walter S.	25 24
Parsons, Andrew	2 00	Williams, Isaac W.	20 68
Powers, Fred	2 00	Welch, Patrick H.	2 00
Reiley, Michael	33 54	Wallace, James L.	2 00
Rowell, Wm. Heirs	77 19	Welch, Jno. T.	2 00
Ruel, Lawrence	2 00	Wiggin, Andrew J.	2 00
Richardson, Henry C.	2 00	Webster, A. M.	11 96
Richardson, Chas. A.	2 00	Webster, Bert W.	2 00
Ramsdell, Chas. F.	2 83	Orpheon Club,	83
Reynolds, James.	2 00	Currier, Thos. A.	1 66
Redman, Clarence	2 83	Peaslee, John S.	2 91
Redman, Charles E.	3 25	Peaslee, Richard	14 11
Rogers, Wm. H.	2 00	Favor, Mrs. Nancy	7 47
Sargent, Oscar H.	2 00	Day, Joseph Heirs	1 66
Sargent, Geo. H.	2 00	Bucklin, Sarah N,	7 06
Swedburg, H.	2 00	Gale, Walter C.	13 28
Shay, Wm. E.	2 83	Kimball, Stephen T.	83
Sheridan, James	2 00	Connor, John	5 40
Sheridan, Margaret	6 64	Hoyt, Nelson T.	11 62
Scanlon, James F.	2 00	Parsons, P. H.	4 15
Scanlon, John	2 00	O'Neil, John	2 49
Scofield, Herman B.	2 00	Langley, Geo. W.	14 94
Spofford, N. J.	38 11	Patten, Robert Heirs,	3 32
Simmons, Chas. H.	2 41	Sargent, O. Everett	32 37
Sage, Wm. H.	2 00	Sutherland, Peter	17 43
Stoyle, Thos.	21 09	Lane, Mary Ann	14 53
Sargent, Lyman	2 00	Cooper, George	83
Scanlon, John N.	2 00	Noon, Mathew	2 49
Sargent, J. P. Heirs	50 63	Ford, Ella W.	4 98
Sargent, Wm. A.	2 00	Tenney, John E.	3 32
Scanlon, Wm. H.	2 00	Burque, Alphonso	31 54
Swanburg, Chas.	2 00	Cherry, Joseph	8 30
Sullivan, Patrick	2 00	Traverse, Chas. B.	2 00
Sargent, Robert P.	2 00	Dyer, Clarence S.	2 00
Smith, J. F.	2 00	Bailey, James W.	2 00
Stevens, David	66	Bagley, Thos.	83
Thompson, Willard D.	2 00		

Auditor's Report.

I have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Collector and Treasurer, and find vouchers for all orders drawn by the Selectmen and payments made by the Treasurer.

Total amount of orders drawn by the Selectmen, \$ 49,657 16

The Treasurer has paid

Orders of last year,			10 95
“ this “	49,657 16		

Less orders not in

No. 7927.	3 00.		
“ 7936,	1 50		
“ 7942,	7 75		
“ 7944,	20 16		
“ 7968,	1 00	33 41	49,623 75

Total payment by Treasurer,		\$ 49,634 70
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MILFORD EDWARDS, Auditor.

Merrimac, Feb. 17, 1896.

SCHOOL REPORT.

Teachers, 1895=96.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

BION GREEN,	Term expires 1896
FRANK E. PEASE,	“ 1897
T. H. HOYT,	“ 1898

HIGH SCHOOL.

DANIEL G. ABBOTT,	}	Principal
C. C. FERGUSON,		
L. FRANCES TUCKER,		Assistant

MERRIMAC—CENTER.

First Grammar,	JENNIE P. CLEMENT
Second Grammar,	LILLA M. PHELPS
Intermediate,	EMMA PEARSON
Primary,	ETTA H. COLBY

PROSPECT STREET.

Intermediate,	MARY H. HEAD
Primary,	BERTHA M. BOULTONHOUSE

MIDDLE STREET.

Second Grammar,	CARRIE M. EVANS
Primary,	LOUISE C. BRACKETT

MERRIMACPORT.

Grammar,	IDA M. BLAISDELL
Primary,	HATTIE E. BAXTER

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Highlands,	ANNIE M. GRAY
Bear Hill,	ANNIE R. HUNTER
Birch Meadow,	{ ETHEL M. CLEALE
	{ ABBIE L. CLEMENT

MUSIC, LIZZIE B. SMITH.

DRAWING, M. A. PEARSON.

Twentieth Annual Report.

The school committee of Merrimac would herewith submit their annual report. The term of office of one member of the school committee having expired T. H. Hoyt was elected for three years.

The new board organized with a choice of Bion Green chairman and T. H. Hoyt secretary.

At the annual meeting of this town in March, 1895, it was voted to unite with one more towns in the employment of a superintendent of schools. Under this vote a union has been formed with Bradford and a superintendent (Mr. R. D. McKeen) has been employed for one year. Merrimac to have 2-5 of the superintendent's time and pay 2-5 of his salary.

The advantage of the services of a skilled superintendent of schools in this town can not be too highly estimated. Our schools have, through the efforts of the superintendent been brought to a high degree of excellence. We would in this connection call your attention to the necessity of appropriating a suitable amount if a superintendent is to be employed next year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Appropriated by town,	\$ 8,300 00	
Massachusetts school fund,	269 20	
Dog fund,	148 50	
Tuition and supplies,	32 36	
Superintendent's salary,	350 00	
		\$ 9,100 06

Expended for teachers,	\$6,565 41	
Care of school buildings,	571 51	
Fuel,	255 93	
Books,	482 99	
Supplies,	345 13	
Repairs,	132 22	
Sundries,	261 40	
Superintendent,	300 00	
		\$8,914 59
Unexpended balance,		185 47

GRADUATION.

Your school committee deeming that it would be for the best interest of the High School and the graduating class to have no public graduation this year, decided, in connection with the members of the graduating class, to have no public graduating exercises in the town hall as has usually been done. It is the opinion of your committee that too much time has been spent in the past on these useless exercises and that the time could be employed to better advantage on the regular studies. Believing that this is the case we have discouraged the idea of public graduation.

REPAIRS.

No extended repairs have been made on any of the school buildings during the year, but some general repairs have been made on all the buildings.

TRUANCY BY-LAWS.

The state having passed laws in regard to truants in the public schools, your committee would respectfully advise that the town take some action at its next election in regard to adopting some suitable by-laws in regard to truants in our public schools. Feeling that the town should comply as far as possible with the laws of the state, the school committee

have drawn up a set of by-laws and caused an article to be inserted in the town warrant.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Your committee would respectfully suggest that \$8,200 be appropriated for the general school expenses for the next year and \$350 for superintendent's salary.

COURSE OF STUDY.

We herewith print a new course of study for the High school concerning which mention is made by the superintendent in his report. The course of study for the lower grades has been omitted this year for the reason that it has not been materially changed since it was printed before.

JANITOR OF THE CENTER BUILDING.

Believing that the care of this building should be in the hands of a man rather than a boy as it has been in the past, we have employed Mr. C. P. Baker as janitor of this building. In our opinion this has been of great advantage both to the teachers and to all parties concerned.

STATISTICS.

For other matters relating to the statistics and condition of your schools, we would respectfully refer you to the reports of the superintendent, principal of the High school, teachers of music and drawing, which are appended to this report.

BION GREEN,	} School	
FRANK E. PEASE,		} Committee.
T. H. HOYT,		

MERRIMAC HIGH SCHOOL.

GRADUATES, 1895.

MARGARET ELLEN SHERIDAN,

ABBIE L. CLEMENT,

LILLIAN BROWN McCONNELL,

FLORENCE L. EMERSON,

MARY L. BROWN.

COURSE OF STUDY FOR MERRIMAC HIGH SCHOOL.

FALL TERM.

	COLLEGE COURSE.	GENERAL COURSE.	ENGLISH COURSE.
1st Year.	4 Latin Lessons. 5 Algebra. 5 Physiology.	4 Latin Lessons. 5 Algebra. 5 Physiology.	4 English. 5 Algebra. 5 Physiology.
2d Year.	5 Cæsar. 4 Greek Lessons. 3 Rhetoric and Composition. 5 Geometry.	5 Cæsar or 3 History. 3 Rhetoric and Composition. 4 Physics. 5 Geometry.	3 Rhetoric and Composition. 5 Geometry. 4 Physics. 3 French History.
3d Year.	4 Cicero. 3 Greek Lessons. 4 General History. 4 Literature. *4 Physics.	4 Cicero or French. 4 General History. 4 Literature. 5 Geology.	4 Literature. 5 General History. 5 Geology.
4th Year.	5 Vergil. 4 Anabasis. 4 Literature. 5 { French or Mathematics. (Review.)	5 Vergil or French. 4 Literature. 5 Mathematics (Review.)	

WINTER TERM.

	COLLEGE COURSE.	GENERAL COURSE.	ENGLISH COURSE.
1st Year.	5 Latin Lessons. 5 Algebra. 4 English. *4 English History.	5 Latin Lessons. 5 Algebra. 4 English. 3 Botany.	4 English. 5 Algebra. 3 Botany. 3 English History.
2d Year.	5 Caesar. 4 Greek Lessons. 2 Rhetoric and Composition. 5 Geometry.	5 Caesar or History. 2 Rhetoric and Composition. 4 { Physics (1-2 term.) 4 { Chemistry (1-2 term.) 5 Geometry.	2 Rhetoric and Composition. 5 Geometry. 4 { Physics (1-2 term.) 4 { Chemistry (1-2 term.) 3 French History.
3d Year.	5 Cicero. 4 Anabasis. 2 Literature. 4 General History. *4 Physics or Chemistry.	5 Cicero or French. 2 Literature. 4 General History. 5 Astronomy.	2 Literature. 4 General History. 5 { Astronomy or 5 { Physical Geography. 4 Mathematics (Review.)
4th Year.	5 Vergil. 4 Iliad. 2 Literature. 4 { French or 4 { Mathematics. (Review.)	5 Vergil or French. 2 Literature. 5 Physical Geography 4 Mathematics. (Review.)	

SPRING TERM.

	COLLEGE COURSE.	GENERAL COURSE.	ENGLISH COURSE.
1st Year.	5 Latin Lessons. 5 Algebra. 4 Rhetoric and Composition. *3 English History.	5 Latin Lessons. 5 Algebra. 4 Rhetoric and Composition. 4 Botany.	4 Rhetoric and Composition. 5 Algebra. 4 Botany. 3 English History.
2d Year.	4 Cæsar. 4 Greek Lessons. 2 Rhetoric and Composition. 3 General History.	4 Cæsar. 5 Chemistry. 3 General History. 4 Geometry. 2 Rhetoric and Composition.	3 Rhetoric and Composition. 5 Chemistry. 4 Geometry. 3 General History.
3d Year.	5 Cicero. 4 Anabasis. 2 Literature. 4 { United States History and Civil Government. *5 Chemistry.	5 Cicero or French. 5 { United States History and Civil Government. 5 Zoology. 2 Literature.	2 Literature. 5 Zoology. 5 { United States History and Civil Government. 3 Mathematics (Review.) 2 Book-keeping.
4th Year.	4 Vergil. 4 Iliad. 3 Literature. 4 Mathematics (Review)	4 Vergil or French. 3 Literature. 3 Mathematics (Review.) 2 Book-keeping.	

* Optional.

Spelling, Music, Drawing and Rhetoricals throughout the Course.

Figures indicate the number of Recitations per week.

NAMES OF TEACHERS AND THEIR SALARIES, 1895-96.

C. C. Ferguson, principal High school,	\$ 1,100 00	per year
L. Frances Tucker, assistant,	52 63	per mo.
Jennie P. Clement, First Grammar center,	50 00	"
Lilla M. Phelps, third Grammar center,	40 00	"
Ida M. Blaisdell, First Grammar, Port,	45 00	"
Carrie M. Evans, second Grammar, Middle st.	45 00	"
Emma Pearson, First Intermediate, center,	40 00	"
Mary H. Head, 2d Intermediate, Prospect st.,	40 00	"
Etta H. Colby, First Primary, center,	40 00	"
Bertha M. Boultenhouse, 2d Primary, Pros. st.	40 00	"
Louise C. Brackett, 2d Primary, Middle st.,	40 00	"
Hattie E. Baxter, Primary, Port,	40 00	"
Annie M. Gray, Highlands,	30 00	"
Annie R. Hunter, Bear Hill,	30 00	"
Abbie L. Clement, Birch Meadow,	30 00	"
Lizzie B. Smith, Music,	15 00	"
M. A. Pearson, Drawing,	expenses and 20 00	"

TEXT BOOKS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Latin Lessons,	Scudder
Latin Readings,	Arrowsmith & Whicher
Cicero,	Harkness
Vergil,	Greenough
Latin Grammar,	Harkness
French Grammar,	Boucher
Greek Lessons,	White
Physics,	Gage
Chemistry,	Williams
Geology,	Tenney
Astronomy,	Young
Botany,	Gray
Geology,	Schaler
Physical Geography,	Warren
Physiology,	Tracy
Civil Government,	Mowery
English,	Lockwood
American Literature,	Elliot
English Literature,	Raub
English Grammar,	Greenwood
General History,	Barnes
English History,	Stone
French History,	Montgomery
Bookkeeping,	Meservey
French Readings,	Gueber, etc.

TEXT BOOKS USED IN THE PRIMARY, INTER-
MEDIATE AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

Greenleaf's Complete Arithmetic.
Greenleaf's Brief Course in Arithmetic.
Greenleaf's First Lessons in Numbers.
Franklin Written Arithmetic.
Colburn's Intellectual Aritsmetic.
Normal Readers.
Davis Readers,
New Franklin Readers.
Cyr's Readers.
Lippincott's Readers.
Johounot's Natural History Readers.
Seaside and Wayside Series of Readers.
Frye's Geographies.
Montgomery's Histories.
Goodrich's Child History.
Welsh and Greenwood Grammar.
Tarbel's Language Lessons.
Hyde's Language Lessons.
Brand's Physiology.
Graves' Speller.
Normal Copy Books.
Meservey's Bookkeeping.
Holt's Music Course.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. All teachers are required to see that these rules are faithfully observed.
2. Teachers are to be present in their respective school-rooms fifteen minutes before the hour of opening each session.
3. No teacher shall employ a substitute without permission from the Committee.
4. In case corporal punishment is resorted to, a record of the same shall be kept in the register.
5. Whenever, the example of a scholar is injurious to the welfare of the school, the teacher may suspend such pupil from the school. In case of suspension, the teacher shall immediately notify the committee.
6. Promotions will be made at the end of the summer term by examinations and the average of the pupil for the year.
7. No person shall be permitted to enter a school for the purpose of promoting the sale of any article. Teachers shall not allow notices to be given; advertisements, circulars or other printed matter to be distributed, or any like interference with the regular course of school work.
8. Teachers shall see that the school-rooms present a neat and orderly appearance at all times.
9. No pupil shall leave the school grounds during recess without permission of the teacher.

10. Books are loaned to the pupils on the following conditions: 1st. They are to be used carefully and not to be marked or defaced. 2d. They are not to be taken from the school-room without the consent of the teacher. 3d. If lost or injured, they are to be paid for by the pupil using them.

11. In case of absence or tardiness, every pupil is expected to furnish written evidence to the teacher that such absence or tardiness was for sufficient cause.

12. Teachers shall see that school-rooms are thoroughly ventilated at the close of each session.

13. Teachers may take two days in each year for the purpose of visiting other schools.

14. Teachers shall require that the State Laws in regard to contagious diseases and vaccination are complied with.

15. No primary scholars, who have not previously attended school, shall be allowed to enter the schools after the first two weeks of any term.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PUBLIC STATUTES.

PENALTY FOR DISTURBING SCHOOLS.

Chapter 207, section 23. "Whoever willfully interrupts or disturbs a school or other assembly of people met for a lawful purpose shall be punished by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding 30 days, or by a fine not exceeding \$50."

MALICIOUS INJURY TO BUILDINGS.

Chapter 203, section 78. "Whoever wilfully and maliciously or wantonly and without cause destroys, defaces, mars, or injures a school-house, church, or other building erected or used for purposes of education or religious instruction, or for the general diffusion of knowledge, or an out-building, fence, well, or appurtenance of such school-house, church, or other building, or furniture, apparratus, or other property belonging to or connected with such school-house, church, or other building, shall be punished by fine not exceeding \$500, or by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding one year."

INJURY TO LIBRARIES.

Chapter 203, section 79. "Whoever wilfully and maliciously or wantonly and without cause writes upon, injures, defaces, tears, or destroys a book, plate, picture, engraving or statue, belonging to a law, town, city, or other library, shall be punished by fine of not less than five, nor more than \$50, or by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding six months."

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

Chapter 47, section 9. "The school committee shall not allow a child who has not been duly vaccinated to be admitted to, or connected with the public schools."

Chapter 198, Laws of 1885. "The school committee shall not allow any pupil to attend the public schools while any member of the household is sick of small-pox, diphtheria, or scarlet fever, or during a period of two weeks after the death, recovery or removal of such sick person; and any pupil coming from such household shall be required to present to the teacher of the school the pupil desires to attend, a certificate from the attending physician or board of health, of the facts necessary to entitle him to admission in accordance with the above regulation."

Report of the Superintendent of Schools.

Gentlemen of the School Committee :

I have the pleasure of submitting to you my report of the Public Schools of the town of Merrimac, for the year 1895 ; this being the first annual report of the Superintendent of Schools in the district of which this town forms a part. This report covers practically that portion of the school year from September to the date of this writing, as I have visited the schools in an official capacity only during that time.

I have given very little time to gleaning statistics, feeling that I could do the schools a better service in other lines. The few that follow have been gathered mostly from the teachers' registers :

Population of the town, U. S. census, 1890,	2,633
“ “ “ “ 1895,	2,302
Number of Schools,	14
Number of teachers employed, including special teachers, (Drawing and Music),	17
Number of children in town between the ages of 5 and 15 years, as per census, May, 1895,	409
“ 1893,	405
Number of children in town between the ages of 8 and 14 years,	250
Number enrolled on school registers during the year,	491

Number enrolled between 8 and 14 years,	268
“ “ over 15 years of age,	57
“ “ under 5 years of age,	2
Average membership of all the schools,	398.29
Average attendance,	362.28
“ “ per room,	25.91
Per cent. of average attendance,	.91

No radical changes or innovations have been made in the work since my connection with the schools; but a steady, constant labor for improvement and efficiency along well-defined lines has been our object. Perhaps it might not be out of place to state that there have been improvements made in methods of teaching Reading, Geography and Arithmetic. More work has been done in Nature Study than in the past, and a systematic course in Drawing has been begun. In whatever lines of work we have placed particular stress, I can discover improvement in this short time.

Five month's incumbancy in the office of Superintendent of Schools is not sufficient time under the most favorable conditions, to mature plans along scarcely any line of work. Considerable time has been necessarily consumed in making myself familiar with the work that had already been done in the schools of the two towns — Bradford and Merrimac — to say nothing of making the acquaintance of the forty-five different teachers and their various methods of instruction.

In most cases, the teachers have shown a sufficient amount of energy in their work to warrant me in saying they are zealous and interested. They have been prompt in attendance at the grade meetings, which have been held frequently but not regularly. The teachers have been eager to learn modern and improved methods of instruction, and willing to accept and execute suggestions made by the superintendent.

The regular monthly meetings of the Merrimac Teachers' Association have been omitted thus far, feeling that more profit would be derived from frequent grade meetings than in meetings composed of all the teachers. Moreover, if the teachers attend the necessary grade meetings, together with those called by the directors of Drawing and Music, it is all the extra labor, in this line, we can reasonably demand of them. As the teachers become more familiar with my ideas of teaching the different subjects in their respective grades, we shall revive the regular meetings of the association.

ATTENDANCE.

Irregular attendance impedes the uniform progress of the schools. In the majority of cases, the cause of this difficulty lies with parents, many of whom little realize the necessity of their children being in school regularly. The pupil who does not attend school regularly, not only loses much himself, but places great obstacles in the way of the increased efficiency of his school.

Not many cases of deliberate truancy have come to my notice. In most cases, the absences arise from pure indifference on the part of a few parents whether their children are in school or not. Our teachers are using all means in their power to secure punctuality. They have tried incentives and persuasion, but with little effect. We must have the earnest co-operation of parents in this matter, for upon *them*, principally, rests the burden of reform.

Many parents refuse to write excuses for the absence or tardiness of their children. Although the *reason* for such should be given, the teachers do not demand it; they do ask the parent or guardian to state whether the absence or tardiness was with their knowledge and consent. This rule was made by the School Board and is well nigh universally observed in the towns and cities of the Commonwealth. I

trust that no thoughtful citizen will refuse to comply with this reasonable request.

I think the town, at its next annual meeting, should adopt a set of By-Laws relating to truancy and absentees from school, and provide a suitable place for the confinement and education of its truant children.

MUSIC AND DRAWING.

The music has been continued throughout the year under the direction of Miss L. B. Smith of Dover, N. H. Instead of having the special teacher do most of the teaching of music as has been the practice in the past, she has begun the work of a director, laying out the work for the teachers of the different grades, holding meetings and making them more familiar with the whole Music course. I believe this is, by far, the better plan, for the regular teachers know the dispositions of their pupils much better than a special teacher can know them who visits the schools but once a week, and then for only about twenty minutes. There has been a hindrance to the best success of music in our schools by the false opinion of some, that vocal music is especially adapted to the "gifted few." I believe the money spent in this town for music in the schools is yielding a good income.

The arrangement made whereby systematic work in Drawing went into effect at the beginning of the fall term has proved to be a valuable expenditure of the money. This work has been carried on under the direction of Miss M. A. Pearson of Reading. Miss Pearson visits as many of our schools as time will allow, one day in each week, supervises the actual teaching therein, and holds meetings after school hours, instructing the teachers and advising them how to teach the subject to the best advantage. Profitable results are already shown in the growing interest in this subject by teachers as well as pupils.

HIGH SCHOOL.

The High School, under the instruction of C. C. Ferguson, A. M., principal, and Miss L. F. Tucker, assistant, merits the confidence of our towns-people. The good discipline of the school has been secured and commendable progress has been made in the classes.

The revision of the course of study went into effect at the beginning of the fall term, and Principal Ferguson speaks well of the new plan.

In order that there may be good work done in the sciences, it is absolutely essential that we should have at our command the necessary apparatus for doing the work. Your board has recently made a good beginning toward efficiency, by purchasing considerable apparatus for work in this line; but we are destitute of room for experimental work by the pupils. If our High School could be supplied with the necessary room and apparatus, the science work could be made, easily and profitably, a distinguishing feature of the school work.

NATURE STUDY.

Considerable attention has been given to Nature Studies during the fall term and with results worthy of our notice. Quite an interest in this work has been manifested in the lower grades. With Mr. A. C. Boyden's Outline of Nature Study for our plan we have given from one to three lessons a week, on fruit, insects, leaves and minerals, and many schools have made very good collections in the subjects studied. The pupils are taught to observe the specimens under consideration, then accurately write the results of their own observations. By this means they are brought in contact with nature, observing and analyzing the wonders of animal and plant life and to understand some of the natural phenomena that surround them. Thus the children are not only contributing

to their powers of observation; but at the same time, are being furnished with the best material for their work in geography, drawing and language.

Frequent meetings have been held and instructions given the teachers in methods of conducting this work, but at the same time, allowing the widest possible latitude for the individuality of pupils and teachers. An excellent beginning has been made, the importance of the work acknowledged and a desire for further study manifested.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE SCHOOLS.

During the fall term an attempt was made to bring into closer relationship the two great forces that contribute so largely toward the education of the youth — the public library and the public schools. Our object being, (1) to create in the minds of the children a love for good reading; (2) to make them familiar with some of the best works of our leading American and English authors; (3) to furnish material for work in literature in the High School. If a love for good reading, with its wholesome influences, is to be created in the minds of the coming generation, it must be begun during their school days; for in most families, the matter of selecting suitable books for their children to read is left wholly to the children themselves. After gaining the consent of your Board, a list was prepared, consisting of books, not heavy but elevating in character, and such as would be best suited to the pupils for a course in reading in the last two years of the Grammar School and for the four years in the High School. The matter was laid before the trustees of the Public Library for their consideration. It gives me pleasure to state that this new project met with their approval; for after a careful consideration they voted to grant us the privileges of the library that we asked, being as follows: That the teachers may take to the Grammar

School, not exceeding 24 books, and to the High School, not exceeding 26 books, at any one time, for a period not exceeding three weeks, with the privilege of renewal one week. These books are read by the pupils in their leisure time. Each scholar is supposed to read at least two books a term of the list prescribed for his year, and is asked to keep a note-book as he reads, for inspection by the teacher after the book has been read. After several have read a certain book, a class or section is formed for the purpose of a brief study of the book read, the life of the author and such other interesting facts as seem most profitable to the pupils concerned. This new venture has already proved itself to be a valuable feature in our school work.

The High School has been granted, with slight limitations, the use of reference books in the Public Library, thus saving the School Board the expenditure of a considerable sum of money actually needed for reference books, and gives the school a greater variety than would otherwise be afforded them.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the trustees in their willingness to make the library such an active agency in our school work. Out of this movement great gain is certain, if properly managed.

In due time I hope this privilege of using the library books may be extended to the Intermediate or Lower Grammar grades; for, in my mind, the use of the library should not only be granted those who desire to patronize it, but to bring its valuable influences to bear upon those who do not at present care for them, but rather seek that literature that is low and degrading, or prefer to spend their time on the street corners or in loafing places.

PENMANSHIP.

The penmanship in the schools of this town is far from

satisfactory. True that there are some very good writers in the schools, but these cases are the exception and not the rule. The best penmanship, relatively, is found in the lower grades, while in some of the higher grades the writing is scarcely legible. I cannot attribute this to be the result of poor teaching, neither charge the fault wholly to the pupils. I believe it is, in part, the fault with the system. The cramped and unnatural positions, easily acquired in practicing the sloping system of writing in the lower grades prevent the pupils from afterwards acquiring a legible and rapid hand. This sloping style is not natural to the child, as is easily proven in the first few days of his school life. He naturally moves his hand vertically backward and forward rather than obliquely in imitation of the teacher's writing.

Last October, the School Committee of Bradford adopted the vertical system of writing for the Primary and Grammar schools of that town, and employed a man one day in two weeks to direct the work. Although the system has been in vogue but a little less than four months, there has been sufficient opportunity to notice marked improvement in penmanship in the schools. The cramped and awkward positions have been supplanted by natural, easy ones, and the writing has greatly improved. Those whose writing was scarcely legible under the sloping kind and who manifested apparently no interest in their writing are showing the most marked improvement. Thus, from actual observation, I am led to recommend the adoption of vertical writing for the schools of this town. This system is not a new invention, for it is said to have been in use among the ancient Greeks and Romans. It was certainly that writing practiced by our forefathers, and many of the early documents of this country are written in this style.

TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS.

Among others, the town of Merrimac is supporting two

schools, one of which (Birch Meadow), has enrolled during the year but eight pupils, with an average attendance of six, the other having a total enrollment of five, with an average attendance of 3.95.

If the town at its next annual meeting would vote to temporarily close these two schools and transport the children to the graded schools the pupils in these two districts would receive far greater educational advantages than they can possibly obtain in their ungraded schools. With so few pupils in a school and but one or two in a class there can be but little enthusiasm and very little progress made.

In my opinion the scholars in these two districts would be benefited in the following ways if they could be transported to the graded schools: (1) They would be better classified, each pupil being placed where he can do his best work and where more time is devoted to each recitation. (2) It would give the children the benefit of work in special subjects, as drawing and music, where they now will receive but a very little of this instruction. (3) They would have the benefit of superior teaching and would be placed in better school buildings and have the use of a more abundant supply of maps, globes and apparatus. (4) Their school year would be lengthened. They now receive but two terms a year or about twenty-five weeks, where they would receive three terms or thirty-eight weeks, if transported to the graded schools. (5) They would be more regular in attendance and fewer cases of tardiness would occur. (6) There would be an increasing desire to enter our High School by being brought in contact with other pupils. (7) More interest created from the inspiration of greater numbers and perhaps resulting in a spirit of rivalry.

I do not advocate the transportation of these children so much from an economic view of the matter as I do by reason

of the educational advantages derived therefrom. To say nothing of the usual repairs, it will cost nearly as much to pay for the proper transportation of these pupils to the graded schools as it does to hire a teacher and have the pupils taught in their respective districts as in the past.

Now, shall the children of these two districts be denied of the advantages above enumerated? It is not a mere matter of theory or conjecture, but one that demands the attention of all thoughtful citizens. I would bespeak for the children, who ask through you, that our citizens place at your disposal the necessary means which will enable you to grant equal educational privileges to all children in town — an advantage which might and should be theirs.

CONCLUSION.

I add with pleasure the statement that I am under obligations to the teachers for the courteous manner in which I have been received and treated, and for the willingness, on the whole to co-operate with me in my efforts to improve the schools. I gladly avail myself of the privilege to express to your Board my grateful appreciation of the assistance and valuable council I have received in the discharge of my duties.

Respectfully,

R. D. McKEEN,

Superintendent of Schools.

February 1, 1896.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF HIGH SCHOOL.

Merrimac, Mass., Jan. 19, 1896.

To Mr. R. D. McKeen, Superintendent of Schools, Merrimac, Mass. :

Having been but a short time at the head of the Merrimac High School, my report must at best be somewhat incomplete and unsatisfactory.

Our aim as teachers has been to make our school work interesting, and at the same time, disciplinary and practical. That there is no royal road to learning has been well said, and we, bearing in mind the fact that what is too readily acquired gives little real mental training, have not tried to make one, though our time has always been at our pupil's disposal.

We hope and feel sure there has been an increase of interest in school work. That there has been improvement in most of the recitation work, there can be no question. In general the pupils are well disposed and of excellent mental capacity, which needs only developing to make them first-rate scholars. The order would be better with single desks.

There is a tendency in this age to test everything by its immediate practical value, and if weighed and found wanting in this respect, a study is by too many regarded as non-essential and valueless. In this our school is not an exception. Consequently Latin, Greek and the higher mathematics are somewhat tabooed, when really in a sense they are ultimately the most practical, since they and not the so-called practical studies train the mind best for its life work. Then our parents should see to it that while their children study the practical they not less study and master the disciplinary.

While our percentage of attendance has always been above .90, this seems too low.

Many scholars allow trifling reasons to keep them from school. No scholar can thoroughly master his subject without constant school attendance. Lost work can never be made up again. When all parents are fully aroused to the need of their children attending school regularly, we shall hope for an improvement in this direction.

So far as practicable we have used the "library method" in our teaching, and have been aided very much in this aim by the Trustees of the Public Library, who have very kindly allowed us the use of their valuable reference books.

A college preparatory course has been added to the school courses. This will meet the demands of those wishing to have their children fitted for college. The course includes all the work required for admission to college. The English course has been shortened to three years, thus favoring all those not able to complete a longer course.

Owing to the great number of studies to be taught, the consequent shortness of the recitation periods, and to the fact that the work is too much for two teachers to do most efficiently, a second assistant is almost indispensable. Such a change, also, would place our High School on an equal footing with city schools of the same grade.

In the Fall term a literary and debating society was organized, which has since met one evening every other week, at the school-house. The purpose is to give the High School scholars a chance of learning how to think and speak before an audience, a most important part of an education. A large part of the rhetorical work has been done in connection with this society. Great interest has been aroused and the results have been most satisfactory, and, we think, of lasting value to the scholars themselves.

It is intended to make the work in Literature and History

as extensive as possible. These studies are rapidly coming to the front in secondary schools, and most properly. Associated with them, a course of reading has been made for each school year, including the best works of standard authors. A part of these books are constantly kept in the school-room for ready use. The Trustees of the Public Library allow us to have 26 volumes at one time. The books are very generally read and it is hoped that, consequently, there will be an improved taste in reading. The results, therefore, amply justify the trial made.

There has been marked improvement both in the singing and the drawing. In the former, the number that do not take part is less than a dozen; in the latter the work has been entirely under the instruction and oversight of the drawing teacher, an advance.

Our efficiency would be still farther increased if the High School could have the whole upper part of the school building. This would insure ample room for laboratory work, and also would give the assistant a room large enough for the suitable accommodation of her classes. The present room used by her is entirely unsatisfactory, and also is worth nothing, as a room for laboratory work. There is also great chance for improvement in the means of ventilation.

The working of the school cannot be correctly gauged from the outside, so we cordially invite and urge all those interested in our work and in the school, to visit it and see for themselves our needs and our progress.

I feel myself under deep obligations to the School Committee, to my assistant, and to you, for many favors and much help which, perhaps, better than anyone else, the new teacher knows how to appreciate.

Respectfully submitted,

C. C. FERGUSON, Principal.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF DRAWING.

To the Superintendent of Schools :

My work as Director of Drawing in your schools began in September. In submitting this, my first report, I would state, briefly, the purpose of the work, the ends sought, the general plan and what has already been accomplished.

We aim through this study to give the pupils a true knowledge of color and form, a knowledge of the laws governing decoration, and to awaken a love and appreciation of the good, the true and the beautiful in the world about them. The ends sought are the ability to draw truthfully and confidently and a taste for good art.

Drawing is taught as the language by which the pupils are to express their ideas of the form of objects and to so instruct them that they may use this language readily, truthfully and artistically. In order to draw truthfully one must have a knowledge of objects and the principles governing their representation. The first the pupil should acquire, largely in the primary grades, the latter in the grammar grades.

The primary work is considered under the general subjects: Color, Form and Arrangement. Drawing is begun in the primary grades and when continued in the higher grades we teach the representation of the facts of form and the structure of objects or Constructive Drawing; the laws governing the decoration of objects, or Decorative Drawing; and the representation of the appearance of objects, or Pictorial Drawing. This latter subject being the most important and the most difficult to acquire is given the greatest proportion of time.

The pupils begin the pictorial work in September, drawing first leaves, flowers and plants, then fruits and vegetables, followed by a study of geometric type solids and objects embodying the necessary principles in simplest form. The advanced classes apply the principles studied to furniture drawing, interiors, as corners of the room, open doors and to outdoor sketching. Pictorial drawing is continued through January. During February and March Constructive Drawing, including geometrical drawing, working drawing and development is taken. April, May and June are given to Decorative Drawing, including historic ornament, color and original design.

In the Primary Grades the pupils have had regular instruction in color, form and drawing. In the Grammar and High Schools the time has been chiefly given to pictorial work. The drawings have been made on blank paper and from objects. Thus the pupil relies upon his own judgement and each must do his own seeing and thinking and express his thoughts in his own way.

In order that the pupils might make a broader application of principles studied, it was suggested that they provide themselves with sketch books, to be used chiefly out of school hours, as supplementary to work done in the class room. The sketch book, when faithfully used, greatly helps the student to gain facility in drawing. Many of the pupils are learning to use them. They have also provided themselves with portfolios in which to keep their drawings.

As the work progresses it is hoped to take, in connection with the pictorial drawing, a study of the great masters and their noted works, for we deem it as important as a matter of general education that the pupils know the great artists as the great authors and to learn to appreciate a good picture as a good book. When historic design is studied something of the history of architecture may also be taken,

Since my connection with the schools a half day of personal work has been given each week. The work has been logically arranged and presented as a whole to the teachers. Lesson outlines, illustrated suggestions and methods of conducting the work have been given in meetings of the teachers regularly held after school hours. In these meetings a course in appearance drawing is also being given that the teachers may be able to do as well as understand and guide the work of the pupils. We aim, as the practical result of the study, to have our pupils awake to the beauties of form and color in the world about them, and later they may apply this knowledge in their dress in the selection and arrangement of their homes and household articles. It should be of service also, in whatever business they follow, whether they become florists, landscape gardeners, decorators, illustrators, artists, designers, machinists, carpenters, dressmakers, architects, milliners, scientists or teachers. It may aid, too, in the choice of a profession, serving to reveal to them how they may best be useful to mankind.

The successful progress of the work depends largely upon the interest and faithfulness of the teachers. The spirit which they show in taking up and helping forward the study is most gratifying.

In conclusion I desire to thank you and the School Board for your helpful interest, and to extend my grateful acknowledgement to my associate teachers for their kind reception and earnest co-operation.

Respectfully submitted,

M. A. PEARSON.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF MUSIC.

To the Superintendent of Schools :

I submit my report as Supervisor of Music : While I cannot conscientiously report the schools as entirely graded in Music at the present time, yet the past five months have seen a rapid progress toward that end, and I think another year will find it accomplished.

I feel that a marked improvement has taken place in all the schools in note reading and time—the two fundamental rules of music. The teachers' meetings instituted at the beginning of the Fall term, have greatly aided the teachers in a clear understanding of the underlying principles to be developed, and I have received conscientious help, in my work, from them. As it takes seven years to develop the system, I do not, as yet, see its results in upper Grammar or High School, although I am able to report a marked interest and ability in the High. The Holt system, little by little, unfolds the principles of Music to its students, until from the primary novice, reading for the first time, a note, there is no reason why the High School pupil of to-day should not read Oratorio music. I would recommend the introduction of No. 1 Readers into the second year's work, as soon as possible ; also that of Codas in the High School as often as practicable, as the interest of the latter is thereby greatly enhanced.

In conclusion, I earnestly invite parents and all those interested in public school music, to visit the schools during music periods, thus showing their interest and inciting the pupils to further efforts.

Respectfully,

LIZZIE B. SMITH.

Merrimac, Mass., January 18, 1896.

ARTICLES IN THE WARRANT

FOR THE

ANNUAL MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1896.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2. To bring in their votes on one ballot for Town Clerk; three Selectmen, who will be Assessors and Overseers of the Poor; Treasurer; Collector of Taxes; one School Committee for three years; one Trustee of Cemetery for three years; two Trustees of Public Library for three years; one Trustee of Public Library for two years; one Trustee of Public Library for one year, to fill vacancy; three Constables; three Surveyors of Lumber and Measurers of Wood and Bark; three Fence Viewers; three Field Drivers; Auditor of Accounts. Also to bring in their votes upon the same ballot, Yes or No, on the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" In voting under this article the polls will be opened at nine o'clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon and may be closed at two o'clock in the afternoon.

ARTICLE 3. To determine what sum of money shall be raised to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the town for the ensuing year and make appropriations for the same. To hear the report of the committee upon appropriations.

ARTICLE 4. To fix the time for the payment of taxes and see what discount, if any, the town will allow for the prompt payment of taxes. Also to see what interest, if any, the town will charge on taxes remaining unpaid after the time fixed for the payment thereof. Also to determine the compensation for collecting.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will authorize its Treasurer, under the direction of the Selectmen, to hire money in anticipation of taxes and to pay any indebtedness of the town.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will vote to accept the jury list as revised by the Selectmen.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to rebuild a part of the bank wall on Broad street adjoining land of James Whittier and make appropriation for the same.

ARTICLE 8. To see what action the town will take on the claim of G. W. Fredson for damages for injuries received by snow not being properly removed on High street.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to adopt Truancy By-Laws as required by Statutes.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the employment of a Superintendent of Schools.

ARTICLE 11. On petition of S. A. McConnell and others, to see if the town will choose a committee of five to

consider the feasibility of introducing a water supply. This committee to examine possible sources of supply, ascertain the possible cost of water works, etc., and obtain and report at a future meeting such information as will enable the town to act understandingly in the matter; also to make an appropriation sufficient to cover the necessary expenses incurred by this committee.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will permit its Town Officers to occupy the room between the rooms of the First National Bank and the Public Library and make necessary changes in the same and make the necessary appropriation therefor.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the town will vote to restrain neat cattle and horse kind from running at large. And to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.



